



NORTH CAROLINA TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE GUIDE

Preferred Long Distance, Inc. dba Telplex Communications



Thank you for selecting Preferred Long Distance, Inc. dba Telplex Communications (“Telplex” or “Company”) as your telecommunications service provider. This Service Guide, in conjunction with any existing separate Service Agreements, constitutes the rates, terms, and conditions applicable to your use of Telplex’s telecommunications services within the State of North Carolina. Telplex has been granted North Carolina Utilities Commission authority to provide Services within the State of North Carolina. Intrastate Services are provided under the rates, terms, and conditions of this Service Guide unless otherwise set forth under a separate service agreement.

For additional information or assistance, please visit us on the web at <https://telplex.com/> or contact our Customer Care representatives, toll free at 888.479.2770, or in writing addressed to the attention of Customer Service at 16830 Ventura Blvd., Encino, CA 91436.

This Preferred Long Distance, Inc. dba Telplex Communications Service Guide is subject to change by the Company from time to time. See Telplex’s web site for current version. This Service Guide reflects the version in effect as of June 1, 2018.



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APPLICATION OF SERVICE GUIDE

Thank you for selecting Preferred Long Distance, Inc. dba Telplex Communications (“Telplex” or Company”) as your local and/or long distance telecommunications service provider. This Service Guide establishes the standard rates, terms, and conditions that apply to the provision and your use of Telplex’s retail interexchange long distance telecommunications Services in the State of North Carolina. Your verbal or written Service Order or any use by you of Telplex’s Service constitutes agreement by you to all of the rates, terms, and conditions set forth in this Service Guide, including any other documents specifically incorporated herein.

The provisions of this Service Guide apply only to retail intrastate telecommunications Services furnished by Telplex and do not apply, unless otherwise specified, to any other services, including, without limitation, Information Services and other unregulated services offered by Telplex. Except as expressly specified in this Service Guide with respect to particular Service plans ordered by Customers, the rates and charges set forth in this Service Guide do not cover lines, facilities, or services furnished to Customers by other carriers, including, without limitation, lines, facilities, or services that are used by Customers to access Telplex’s long distance Services or to complete calls to or from points beyond Telplex’s network calling areas. Customers are solely responsible for obtaining any customer premises equipment and for establishing suitable agreements or other arrangements with other carriers that may be needed to access and use Telplex’s Services.

The provisions of this Service Guide, together with any Applicable Tariffs, establish the sole and exclusive rates, terms, conditions, and understandings pertaining to Telplex’s provision and Customer’s use of Services ordered by Customer, and supersede all prior agreements, proposals, representations, and understandings, whether written or oral, with respect to such Services. No provisions of this Service Guide or any Applicable Tariff may be changed, waived, or otherwise amended, or modified in any manner except pursuant to a written document that has been duly executed by Telplex for such purpose.

In the event of any conflict between the provisions of this Service Guide and any Applicable Tariff, such conflict will be resolved by giving preference, first, to the Applicable Tariff provisions and, second, to this Service Guide.

The rates, rules, terms, and conditions contained in this Service Guide are subject to change at Telplex’s sole discretion. Customers will be notified of changes through bill messages or inserts or otherwise in accordance with Applicable Law prior to the date on which changes become effective. Changes will also be posted on Telplex’s website at <https://telplex.com/>. Your continued use of Telplex’s Service following any such changes constitutes your agreement to such changes.

This Service Guide is governed by and interpreted according to Applicable Laws and regulations of North Carolina.

For additional information or assistance, please visit us on the web at <https://telplex.com/> or contact our Customer Care representatives, toll free at 888.479.2770, or in writing addressed to the attention of Customer Service at 216830 Ventura Blvd., Suite 350, Encino, CA 91436. Customer Service representatives are available to address inquiries during company business hours from Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Pacific Time.

SECTION 1 – DEFINITIONS

Access Line: an arrangement from a local exchange Telephone Company or other Common Carrier, using either dedicated or switched access, which connects a Customer's location to Carrier's location or switching center.

Applicant: Any entity or individual who applies for Service offered under this Service Guide.

Authorized User: a person, firm or corporation authorized by the Customer to be an end-User of the service of the Customer.

Business Customer: a Customer that uses a Business Service Offering as set forth in this Service Guide.

Central Office: a local exchange switching unit that is used to interconnect Exchange Access Lines within a specified area.

Channel or Circuit: a path for transmission between two (2) or more points having a bandwidth and termination of Customer's own choosing.

Common Carrier: an authorized company or entity providing telecommunications services to the public.

Commission: The North Carolina Utilities Commission.

Company: Preferred Long Distance, Inc. dba Telplex Communications, the issuer of this Service Guide.

Contract: an agreement between Customer and Company in which the two (2) parties agree upon specifications, terms, pricing, and other conditions of Service. The Contract may or may not accompany an associated Service Order.

Customer: the person, firm, partnership, corporation, municipality, cooperative organization, governmental agency, etc., that is provided service and that is responsible for the payment of charges and compliance with the terms and conditions of this Service Guide.

Customer Premises: a location designated by the Customer for the purposes of connecting to the Company's services.

SECTION 1 – DEFINITIONS, Continued

Deposit: Refers to a cash or equivalent of cash security held as a guarantee for payment of the charges for Services.

Directory Assistance Service: a Service whereby Customers may dial a special directory assistance code or telephone number to reach an operator or automatic Interactive Voice System (“IVS”) that will provide available, published directory listings.

E-911/911: an emergency Service whereby a Customer dials a 911 emergency code or other emergency number and is then connected to an emergency agency responsible for the dispatch of emergency assistance. E911 and 911 are used interchangeably to refer to any emergency dialing arrangement.

Exchange Access Lines: Central Office equipment and related facilities, including the Network interface, which provide access to and from the telecommunications Network.

Exchange Area: a geographically defined area described through the use of maps or legal descriptions to specify areas where individual telephone exchange companies hold themselves out to provide local communications services.

Exchange Telephone Company or Telephone Company: Denotes any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, or corporation authorized by the appropriate regulatory bodies to engage in providing public switched communication service throughout an Exchange Area, and between Exchange Areas within the LATA.

FCC: Federal Communications Commission.

Individual Case Basis (“ICB”): a Service arrangement in which the regulations, rates and charges are developed based on the specific circumstances of the Customer.

Interexchange Carrier (IXC): a long distance telecommunications services provider.

Interruption: the inability to complete calls due to equipment malfunctions or human errors. Interruption shall not include, and no allowance shall be given for Service difficulties such as slow dial tone, Circuits busy or other network and/or switching capability shortages. Nor shall Interruption include the failure of any service or facilities provided by a Common Carrier or other entity other than the Company. Any Interruption allowance provided within this Service Guide by the Company shall not apply where Service is interrupted by the negligence or willful act of the Customer, or where the Company, pursuant to the terms of this Service Guide, terminates Service because of non-payment of bills, unlawful or improper use of the Carrier’s facilities or service, or any other reason covered by this Service Guide or by applicable law.

Local Exchange Carrier (“LEC”): a provider of local telephone service.

Local Calling Area: the area within which a Subscriber for local exchange Service may make telephone calls without incurring a long distance charge.

SECTION 1 – DEFINITIONS, Continued

Local Exchange Carrier (“LEC”): a provider of local telephone service.

Local Access and Transport Area (LATA): a Local Access and Transport Area established pursuant to the Modification of Final Judgment entered by the United States District Court for the District of Columbia in Civil Action No. 82-0192; or any other geographic area designated as a LATA in the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. Service Guide F.C.C. No. 4, or its successor Service Guide(s).

Monthly Recurring Charges (MRC): the monthly charges to the Customer for services, facilities and equipment, which continue for the agreed upon duration of the service.

Non-Recurring Charge (NRC): the initial charge, usually assessed on a one-time basis, to initiate and establish service. NRC includes, but is not limited to, charges for construction, installation, or special fees for which the Customer becomes liable at the time the Service Order is executed.

Person-to-Person: a call for which the person originating the call specifies to the operator a particular person, department or extension to be reached. Person-to-Person charges only apply when the call is completed to the requested party, department, or extension or when the calling party agrees to talk to another person.

PBX: Private Branch Exchange.

Premises: Denotes a building, a portion of a building in a multitenant building, or buildings on contiguous property (except railroad rights-of-way, etc.) not separated by a public thoroughfare.

Recurring Charges: Monthly charges to the Customer for services, and equipment, which continues for the agreed upon duration of the service.

Residential Customer: a Customer that uses a Residential Service Offering as set forth in this Service Guide.

Service: Any means of Service offered herein or any combination thereof.

Service Area: the area in which the Company provides Service.

Service Order: the written request for Company Services executed by the Customer and the Company in the format devised by the Company. The signing of a Service Order Form by the Customer and acceptance by the Company initiates the respective obligations of the parties as set forth therein and pursuant to this Service Guide.

SECTION 1 – DEFINITIONS, Continued

Station: the network control signaling unit and any other equipment provided at the Customer's Premises which enables the Customer to establish communications connections and to effect communications through such connections.

Station-to-Station: Any operator handled call where the person originating the call does not specify a particular person to be reached, or a particular station, room number, department, or office to be reached through a PBX attendant.

Subscriber: the person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity who orders telecommunications Service from the Company or may be ordered by, or on behalf of, those who own, lease or otherwise manage the pay telephone, PBX, or other switch vehicle from which an End User places a call utilizing the services of the Company.

Telecommunications Relay Service ("TRS"): Enables deaf, hard-of-hearing or speech-impaired persons who use a text telephone or similar devices, to communicate freely with the hearing population not using text telephone and vice versa.

Terminal Equipment: Any telecommunications equipment other than the transmission or receiving equipment installed at a Company location.

Termination of Service: Discontinuance of both incoming and outgoing Service.

Third Number Billing: a billing option that allows a call to be billed to an account different from that of the calling or called party.

Trunk: a communications path, connecting two (2) switching systems in a network, used in the establishment of an end-to-end connection.

Two-Way: a Service attribute that includes dial capabilities for outbound calls and can also be used to carry inbound calls to a central point for further processing.

Usage Charges: Charges for minutes or messages traversing over local exchange facilities.

User or End User: a Customer, joint User, or any other person authorized by a Customer to use Service provided under this Service Guide.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS

2.1. UNDERTAKING OF THE COMPANY

2.1.1. Scope

The Company undertakes to furnish communications Service pursuant to the terms of this Service Guide in connection with one-way and/or Two-Way information transmission between points within the state of North Carolina.

The Company is responsible under this Service Guide only for the Services and facilities provided hereunder, and it assumes no responsibility for any service provided by any other entity that purchases access to the Company network in order to originate or terminate its own services, or to communicate with its own Customers.

2.1.2. Shortage of Equipment or Facilities

- A. The Company reserves the right to limit or to allocate the use of existing facilities, or of additional facilities offered by the Company, when necessary because of lack of facilities, or due to some other cause beyond the Company's control.
- B. The furnishing of Service under this Service Guide is subject to the availability on a continuing basis of all the necessary facilities and is limited to the capacity of the Company's facilities as well as facilities the Company may obtain from other carriers to furnish Service from time to time as required at the sole discretion of the Company.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.1. UNDERTAKING OF THE COMPANY, Continued

2.1.3. Terms and Conditions

- A. Service is provided on the basis of a minimum period of at least thirty (30) days, 24-hours per day. For the purpose of computing charges in this Service Guide, a month is considered to have 30 days.
- B. Except as otherwise stated in this Service Guide, Customers may be required to enter into written Service Orders which shall contain or reference a specific description of the Service ordered, the rates to be charged, the duration of the Services, and the terms and conditions in this Service Guide. Customers will also be required to execute any other documents as may be reasonably requested by the Company.
- C. At the expiration of the initial term specified in each Service Order, or in any extension thereof, Service shall continue on a month-to-month basis at the then current rates unless terminated by either party upon notice. Any termination shall not relieve the Customer of its obligation to pay any charges incurred under the Service Order and this Service Guide prior to termination. The rights and obligations which by their nature extend beyond the termination of the term of the Service Order shall survive such termination.
- D. In any action between the parties to enforce any provision of this Service Guide, the prevailing party shall be entitled to recover its legal fees and court costs from the non-prevailing party in addition to other relief a court may award.
- E. This Service Guide shall be interpreted and governed by the laws of the state of North Carolina regardless of its choice of laws provision.
- F. Any other Telephone Company may not interfere with the right of any person or entity to obtain Service directly from the Company. No person or entity shall be required to make any payment, incur any penalty, monetary or otherwise, or purchase any services in order to have the right to obtain Service directly from the Company.
- G. To the extent that either the Company or any other Telephone Company exercises control over available cable pairs, conduit, duct space, raceways, or other facilities needed by the other to reach a person or entity, the party exercising such control shall make them available to the other on terms equivalent to those under which the Company makes similar facilities under its control available to its Customers. At the reasonable request of either party, the Company and the other Telephone Company shall join the attempt to obtain, from the owner of the property, access for the other party to serve a person or entity.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.1. UNDERTAKING OF THE COMPANY, Continued

2.1.4. Limitations on Liability

- A. Except as otherwise stated in this section, the liability of the Company for damages arising out of either: (1) the furnishing of its Services, including but not limited to mistakes, omissions, Interruptions, delays, or errors, or other defects, representations, or use of these Services or (2) the failure to furnish its Service, whether caused by acts or omission, shall be limited to the extension of allowances to the Customer for Interruptions in Service as set forth in Section 2.6.
- B. Except for the extension of allowances to the Customer for Interruptions in Service as set forth in Section 2.6, the Company shall not be liable to a Customer or third party for any direct, indirect, special, incidental, reliance, consequential, exemplary or punitive damages, including, but not limited to, loss of revenue or profits, for any reason whatsoever, including, but not limited to, any act or omission, failure to perform, delay, Interruption, failure to provide any Service or any failure in or breakdown of facilities associated with the Service.
- C. The liability of the Company for errors in billing that result in overpayment by the Customer shall be limited to a credit equal to the dollar amount erroneously billed or, in the event that payment has been made and Service has been discontinued, to a refund of the amount erroneously billed.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.1. UNDERTAKING OF THE COMPANY, Continued

2.1.4. Limitations on Liability, Continued

- D. The Company shall be indemnified and held harmless by the Customer from and against all loss, liability, damage and expense, including reasonable counsel fees, due to:
1. Any act or omission of: (a) the Customer, (b) any other entity furnishing service, equipment or facilities for use in conjunction with services or facilities provided by the Company, or (c) Common Carriers or warehousemen, except as contracted by the Company;
 2. Any delay or failure of performance or equipment due to causes beyond the Company's control, including but not limited to, acts of God, fires, floods, earthquakes, hurricanes, or other catastrophes; national emergencies, insurrections, riots, wars or other civil commotions; strikes, lockouts, work stoppages or other labor difficulties; criminal actions taken against the Company; unavailability, failure or malfunction of equipment or facilities provided by the Customer or third parties; and any law, order, regulation or other action of any governing authority or agency thereof;
 3. Any unlawful or unauthorized use of the Company's facilities and Services;
 4. Libel, slander, invasion of privacy or infringement of patents, trade secrets, or copyrights arising from or in connection with the material transmitted by means of Company-provided facilities or Services; or by means of the combination of Company-provided facilities or Services;
 5. Breach in the privacy or security of communications transmitted over the Company's facilities;

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.1. UNDERTAKING OF THE COMPANY, Continued

2.1.4. Limitations on Liability, Continued

D. Continued

6. Changes in any of the facilities, operations or procedures of the Company that render any equipment, facilities or services provided by the Customer obsolete, or require modification or alteration of such equipment, facilities or services, or otherwise affect their use or performance, except where reasonable notice is required by the Company and is not provided to the Customer, in which event the Company's liability is limited as set forth in paragraph A of this Section 2.1.4.
7. Defacement of, or damage to, Customer Premises resulting from the furnishing of Services or equipment on such Premises or the installation or removal thereof;
8. Injury to property or injury or death to persons, including claims for payments made under Workers' Compensation law or under any plan for employee disability or death benefits, arising out of, or caused by, any act or omission of the Customer, or the construction, installation, maintenance, presence, use or removal of the Customer's facilities or equipment connected, or to be connected to the Company's facilities;
9. Any non-completion of calls due to network busy conditions;
10. Any calls not actually attempted to be completed during any period that Service is unavailable;
11. And any other claim resulting from any act or omission of the Customer or patron(s) of the Customer relating to the use of the Company's Services or facilities.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.1. UNDERTAKING OF THE COMPANY, Continued

2.1.4. Limitations on Liability, Continued

- E. The Company does not guarantee nor make any warranty with respect to installations provided by it for use in an explosive atmosphere.
- F. The Company makes no warranties or representations, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, either in fact or by operation of law, statutory or otherwise, including warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular use, except those expressly set forth herein.
- G. Failure by the Company to assert its rights pursuant to one provision of this Service Guide does not preclude the Company from asserting its rights under other provisions.
- H. Directory Errors: In the absence of gross negligence or willful misconduct, no liability for damages arising from errors or mistakes in, or omissions of, directory listings, or errors or mistakes in, or omissions of, listing obtainable from the directory assistance operator, including errors in the reporting thereof, shall attach to the Company. An allowance for errors or mistakes in or omissions of published directory listings, or for errors or mistakes in, or omissions of, listing obtainable from the directory assistance operator shall be at the monthly Service Guide rate for each listing, or in the case of a free or no-charge directory listing, credit shall equal two times the monthly Service Guide rate for an additional listing, for the life of the directory or the charge period during which the error, mistake or omission occurs.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.1. UNDERTAKING OF THE COMPANY, Continued

2.1.4. Limitations on Liability, Continued

I. With respect to Emergency Number 911 Service

1. This Service is offered solely as an aid in handling assistance calls in connection with fire, police and other emergencies. The Company is not responsible for any losses, claims, demands, suits or any liability whatsoever, whether suffered, made instituted or asserted by the Customer or by any other party or person for any personal injury or death of any person or persons, and for any loss, damage or destruction of any property, whether owned by the Customer or others, caused or claimed to have been caused by: (1) mistakes, omissions, Interruptions, delays, errors or other defects in the provision of Service, or (2) installation, operation, failure to operate, maintenance, removal, presence, condition, location or use of any equipment and facilities furnishing this Service.
2. Neither is the Company responsible for any infringement, nor invasion of the right of privacy of any person or persons, caused or claimed to have been caused directly or indirectly, by the installation, operation, failure to operate, maintenance, removal, presence, condition, occasion or use of emergency 911 Service features and the equipment associated therewith, or by any Services furnished by the Company, including, but not limited to the identification of the telephone number, address or name associated with the telephone used by the party or parties accessing emergency 911 Service, and which arise out of the negligence or other wrongful act of the Company, the Customer, its Users, agencies or municipalities, or the employees or agents of any one of them.
3. When a Customer with a non-published telephone number, as defined herein, places a call to the emergency 911 Service, the Company will release the name and address of the calling party, where such information can be determined, to the appropriate local governmental authority responsible for emergency 911 Service upon request of such governmental authority. By subscribing to Service under this Service Guide, the Customer acknowledges and agrees with the release of information as described above.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.1. UNDERTAKING OF THE COMPANY, Continued

2.1.4. Limitations on Liability, Continued

- J. Limitations of Damages and of Period for Bringing Claims - The entire liability of Company for any claim, loss, damage or expense from any cause whatsoever shall in no event exceed sums actually paid to Company by the Customer for the specific Services giving rise to the claim, and no action or proceeding against Company shall be commenced more than one (1) year after the Service related to the claim is rendered. Claims applicable to overbilling against Company shall be commenced no more than two (2) years after the Service related to the claim is rendered pursuant to Section 415, U.S. Code, 47 U.S.C. §415.

2.1.5. Notification of Service-Affecting Activities

The Company will provide the Customer reasonable notification of Service-affecting activities that may occur in the normal operation of its business. Such activities may include, but are not limited to, equipment or facilities additions, removals or rearrangements and routine preventative maintenance. Generally, such activities are not specific to an individual Customer but affect many Customers' Services. No specific advance notification period is applicable to all Service activities. The Company will work cooperatively with the Customer to determine the reasonable notification requirements. With some emergency or unplanned Service-affecting conditions, such as an outage resulting from cable damage, notification to the Customer may not be possible.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.1. UNDERTAKING OF THE COMPANY, Continued

2.1.6. Provision of Equipment and Facilities

- A. The Company shall use reasonable efforts to make available Services to a Customer on or before a particular date, subject to the provisions of, and compliance by, the Customer with the regulations contained in this Service Guide. The Company does not guarantee availability by any such date and shall not be liable for any delays in commencing Service to any Customer.
- B. The Company shall use reasonable efforts to maintain only the facilities and equipment that it furnishes to the Customer. The Customer may not, nor may the Customer permit others to, rearrange, disconnect, remove, attempt to repair, or otherwise interfere with any of the facilities or equipment installed by the Company, except upon the written consent of the Company.
- C. The Company may substitute, change or rearrange any equipment or facility at any time and from time to time, but shall not thereby alter the technical parameters of the Service provided the Customer.
- D. Equipment the Company provides or installs at the Customer Premises for use in connection with the Services the Company offers shall not be used for any purpose other than that for which it was provided.
- E. The Customer shall be responsible for the payment of Service charges as set forth herein for visits by the Company's agents or employees to the Premises of the Customer when the Service difficulty or trouble report results from the use of equipment or facilities provided by any party other than the Company, including but not limited to the Customer.
- F. The Company shall not be responsible for the installation, operation, or maintenance of any Customer-provided communications equipment. Where such equipment is connected to the facilities furnished pursuant to this Service Guide, the responsibility of the Company shall be limited to the furnishing of facilities offered under this Service Guide and to the maintenance and operation of such facilities. Subject to this responsibility, the Company shall not be responsible for:
 - 1. the transmission of signals by Customer-provided equipment or for the quality of, or defects in, such transmission; or
 - 2. the reception of signals by Customer-provided equipment.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.1. UNDERTAKING OF THE COMPANY, Continued

2.1.7. Non-routine Installation

At the Customer's request, installation service may be performed outside the Company's regular business hours. In that case, charges based on cost of the actual labor, material, or other costs incurred by or charged to the Company will apply. If installation is started during regular business hours but, at the Customer's request, extends beyond regular business hours into time periods including, but not limited to, weekends, Holidays, and/or night hours, additional charges may apply.

2.1.8. Special Construction

Subject to the agreement of the Company and to all of the regulations contained in this Service Guide, special construction of facilities may be undertaken on a reasonable efforts basis at the request of the Customer. Special construction is that construction undertaken:

- A. where facilities are not presently available, and there is no other requirement for the facilities so constructed;
- B. of a type other than that which the Company would normally utilize in the furnishing of its Services;
- C. over a route other than that which the Company would normally utilize in the furnishing of its Services;
- D. in a quantity greater than that which the Company would normally construct;
- E. on an expedited basis;
- F. on a temporary basis until permanent facilities are available;
- G. involving abnormal costs; or
- H. in advance of its normal construction.

2.1.9. Ownership of Facilities

Title to all facilities provided in accordance with this Service Guide remains in the Company, its partners, agents, contractors or suppliers.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.2. PROHIBITED USES

- 2.2.1.** The Services the Company offers shall not be used for any unlawful purpose or for any use as to which the Customer has not obtained all required governmental approvals, authorizations, licenses, consents and permits.
- 2.2.2.** The Company may require Applicants for Service who intend to use the Company's offerings for resale and/or for shared use to file a letter with the Company confirming that their use of the Company's offerings complies with relevant laws and Commission regulations, policies, orders, and decisions.
- 2.2.3.** The Company may block any signals being transmitted over its Network by Customers, which cause interference to the Company or other Users. Customer shall be relieved of all obligations to make payments for charges relating to any blocked Service and shall indemnify the Company for any claim, judgment or liability resulting from such blockage.
- 2.2.4.** A Customer, joint User, or Authorized User may not assign, or transfer in any manner, the Service or any rights associated with the Service without the written consent of the Company. The Company will permit a Customer to transfer its existing Service to another entity if the existing Customer has paid all charges owed to the Company for regulated communications Services. Such a transfer will be treated as a disconnection of existing Service and installation of new Service, and non-recurring installation charges as stated in this Service Guide will apply.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.3. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER

2.3.1. General

The Customer is responsible for making proper application for Service; placing any necessary order, complying with Service Guide regulations; payment of charges for Services provided. Specific Customer responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A. the payment of all applicable charges pursuant to this Service Guide;
- B. damage to or loss of the Company's facilities or equipment caused by the acts or omissions of the Customer; or the noncompliance by the Customer, with these regulations; or by fire or theft or other casualty on the Customer Premises, unless caused by the negligence or willful misconduct of the employees or agents of the Company;
- C. providing at no charge, as specified from time to time by the Company, any needed personnel, equipment space and power to operate Company facilities and equipment installed on the Premises of the Customer, and the level of heating and air conditioning necessary to maintain the proper operating environment on such Premises;
- D. obtaining, maintaining, and otherwise having full responsibility for all rights-of-way and conduits necessary for installation of fiber optic cable and associated equipment used to provide Communication Services to the Customer from the cable building entrance or property line to the location of the equipment space described in Section 2.3.1.C. Any and all costs associated with obtaining and maintaining the rights-of-way described herein, including the costs of altering the structure to permit installation of the Company-provided facilities, shall be borne entirely by, or may be charged by the Company to, the Customer. The Company may require the Customer to demonstrate its compliance with this section prior to accepting an order for Service;

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.3. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER, Continued

2.3.1. General, Continued

- E. providing a safe place to work and complying with all laws and regulations regarding the working conditions on the Premises at which Company employees and agents shall be installing or maintaining the Company's facilities and equipment. The Customer will be required to install and maintain Company facilities and equipment within a hazardous area. The Customer shall be responsible for identifying, monitoring, removing and disposing of any hazardous material (e.g. asbestos) prior to any construction or installation work;
- F. complying with all laws and regulations applicable to, and obtaining all consents, approvals, licenses and permits as may be required with respect to the location of Company facilities and equipment in any Customer Premises or the rights-of-way for which Customer is responsible under Section 2.3.1.D; and granting or obtaining permission for Company agents or employees to enter the Premises of the Customer at any time for the purpose of installing, inspecting, maintaining, repairing, or upon Termination of Service as stated herein, removing the facilities or equipment of the Company;
- G. not creating, or allowing to be placed, any liens or other encumbrances on the Company's equipment or facilities; and
- H. making Company facilities and equipment available periodically for maintenance purposes at a time agreeable to both the Company and the Customer. No allowance will be made for the period during which Service is interrupted for such purposes.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.3. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER, Continued

2.3.2. Liability of the Customer

- A. The Customer will be liable for damages to the facilities of the Company and for all incidental and consequential damages caused by the negligent or intentional acts or omissions of the Customer, its officers, employees, agents, invitees, or contractors where such acts or omissions are not the direct result of the Company's negligence or intentional misconduct.
- B. To the extent caused by any negligent or intentional act of the Customer as described in Subsection A, preceding, the Customer shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Company from and against all claims, actions, damages, liabilities, costs and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees, for (1) any loss, destruction or damage to property of any third party, and (2) any liability incurred by the Company to any third party pursuant to this or any other rate page of the Company, or otherwise, for any Interruption of, interference to, or other defect in any Service provided by the Company to such third party.
- C. The Customer shall not assert any claim against any other Customer or User of the Company's Services for damages resulting in whole or in part from or arising in connection with the furnishing of Service under this Service Guide including, but not limited to, mistakes, omissions, Interruptions, delays, errors or other defects or misrepresentations, whether or not such other Customer or User contributed in any way to the occurrence of the damages, unless such damages were caused solely by the negligent or intentional act or omission of the other Customer or User and not by any act, or omission of, the Company. Nothing in this Service Guide is intended either to limit or to expand Customer's right to assert any claims against third parties for damages of any nature other than those described in the preceding sentence.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.4. CUSTOMER EQUIPMENT AND CHANNELS

2.4.1. General

A User may transmit or receive information or signals via the facilities of the Company. The Company's Services are designed primarily for the transmission of voice-grade telephonic signals, except as otherwise stated in this Service Guide. A User may transmit any form of signal that is compatible with the Company's equipment, but the Company does not guarantee that its Services will be suitable for purposes other than voice-grade telephonic communication except as specifically stated in this Service Guide.

2.4.2. Station Equipment

- A. Terminal Equipment on the User's Premises and the electric power consumed by such equipment shall be provided by and maintained at the expense of the User. The User is responsible for the provision of wiring or cable to connect its Terminal Equipment to the Company Point of Connection.
- B. The Customer is responsible for ensuring that Customer-provided equipment connected to Company equipment and facilities is compatible with such equipment and facilities. The magnitude and character of the voltages and currents impressed on Company-provided equipment and wiring by the connection, operation, or maintenance of such equipment and wiring shall be such as not to cause damage to the Company-provided equipment and wiring or injury to the Company's employees or to other persons. Any additional protective equipment required to prevent such damage or injury shall be provided by the Company at the Customer's expense, subject to prior Customer approval of the equipment expense.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.4. CUSTOMER EQUIPMENT AND CHANNELS, Continued

2.4.3. Interconnection of Facilities

- A. Any special interface equipment necessary to achieve compatibility between the facilities and equipment of the Company used for furnishing Communication Services and the Channels, facilities, or equipment of others shall be provided at the Customer's expense.
- B. Communication Services may be connected to the services or facilities of other communications carriers only when authorized by, and in accordance with, the terms and conditions of the Service Guides of the other communications carriers that are applicable to such connections.
- C. Facilities furnished under this Service Guide may be connected to Customer-provided Terminal Equipment in accordance with the provisions of this Service Guide. All such Terminal Equipment shall be registered with the FCC, pursuant to Part 68 of Title 47, Code of Federal Regulations; and all User-provided wiring shall be installed and maintained in compliance with those regulations.
- D. Users may interconnect communications facilities that are used in whole or in part for interstate communications to Services provided under this Service Guide only to the extent that the User is an "End User", as defined in Section 69.2(m) of the Federal Communications Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §69.2(m).

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.4. CUSTOMER EQUIPMENT AND CHANNELS, Continued

2.4.4. Inspections

- A. Upon suitable notification to the Customer, and at a reasonable time, the Company may make such tests and inspections as may be necessary to determine that the Customer is complying with the requirements set forth in Section 2.4.2.A for the installation, operation, and maintenance of Customer-provided facilities, equipment, and wiring in the connection of Customer-provided facilities and equipment to Company-owned facilities and equipment.
- B. If the protective requirements for Customer-provided equipment are not being complied with, the Company may take such action as it deems necessary to protect its facilities, equipment, and personnel. The Company will notify the Customer promptly if there is any need for further corrective action. Within ten days of receiving this notice, the Customer must take this corrective action and notify the Company of the action taken. If the Customer fails to do this, the Company may take whatever additional action is deemed necessary, including the suspension of Service, to protect its facilities, equipment and personnel from harm.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.5. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS

2.5.1. Payment for Service

- A. The Customer is responsible for the payment of all charges for facilities and Services furnished by the Company to the Customer and to all Authorized Users by the Customer, regardless of whether those Services are used by the Customer itself or are resold to or shared with other persons.
- B. The Customer is responsible for payment of any sales, use, gross receipts, excise, access or other local, state, federal and 911 taxes, charges or surcharges (however designated) (excluding taxes on Company's net income) imposed on or based upon the provision, sale or use of Network Services.
- C. The security of the Customer's PIN is the responsibility of the Customer. All calls placed using a PIN shall be billed to and shall be the obligation of the Customer. The Customer shall not be responsible for charges in connection with the unauthorized use of PINs arising after the Customer notifies the Company of the loss, theft, or other breach of security of such PINs.
- D. Customers will only be charged once, on either an interstate or intrastate basis, for any nonrecurring or usage based charges.

2.5.2. Billing and Collection of Charges

The Customer is responsible for payment of all charges incurred by the Customer or other Authorized Users for Services and facilities furnished to the Customer by the Company.

- A. Nonrecurring charges are due and payable within twenty-two (22) days of the date the bill is rendered, unless otherwise agreed to in advance. The date the bill is rendered is the date the bill is postmarked.
- B. The Company shall present invoices for recurring charges monthly to the Customer, in advance of the month in which Service is provided, and Recurring Charges shall be due and payable within twenty-two (22) days of the date the bill is rendered. When billing is based on Customer usage, charges will be billed monthly for the preceding billing periods.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.5. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS, Continued

2.5.2. Billing and Collection of Charges, Continued

- C. When Service does not begin on the first day of the month, or end on the last day of the month, the charge for the fraction of the month in which Service was furnished will be calculated on a pro rata basis. For this purpose, every month is considered to have thirty (30) days.
- D. Billing of the Customer by the Company will begin on the Service Commencement Date, which is the first day on which the Service or facility becomes available for use. The Service Commencement Date may be postponed by mutual agreement of the parties, or if the Service or facility does not conform to standards set forth in this Service Guide or the Service Order. Billing accrues through and includes the day that the Service, Circuit, arrangement or component is discontinued.
- E. If any portion of the payment is not received by the Company, or if any portion of the payment is received by the Company in funds that are not immediately available, within twenty-two (22) days of the date the bill is rendered, then a late payment penalty shall be due the Company. The late payment penalty shall be that portion of the payment not received by the date due multiplied by 1.5%.
- F. The Customer will be assessed a charge of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for each check submitted by the Customer to the Company that a financial institution refuses to honor.
- G. If Service is disconnected by the Company in accordance with Section 2.5.6 following, then the Company may reconnect service upon the Customer's payment of the past due balance and all applicable installation charges.



SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.5. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS, Continued

2.5.3. Disputed Bills

Customer inquiries or complaints regarding Service or accounting may be made in writing or by telephone to the Company at:

Telplex
16830 Ventura Blvd., Ste 350
Encino, CA 91436
Telephone: 1.888.479.2770

Any objection to billed charges should be reported promptly to the Company. If after investigation and review by the Company, a disagreement remains as to the disputed amount, the Customer may file an appropriate complaint with:

North Carolina Utilities Commission
Dobbs Building
430 North Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603-5918
Telephone: 1.866.380.9816 or 1.919.733.9277
Email: Consumer.Services@psncuc.nc.gov

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.5. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS, Continued

2.5.5. Deposits

- A. Company may require a deposit from an applicant for new Service. A deposit may be waived if, according to Company's assessment, the applicant is a satisfactory credit risk.
- B. Company may require a deposit from an existing Customer as a condition to the further provision of Service if, according to Company's assessment, the Customer has become a credit risk.
- C. Company will calculate the maximum deposit required from an applicant for Service or an existing customer by estimating the expected charges for Service for a two (2) month period. Company may adjust the amount of deposit to be held in order to maintain a two (2) month estimated amount when, according to Company's assessment, such adjustment is deemed necessary to adequately secure the account.
- D. Customer's may satisfy deposit requirements as follows:
 - 1. In cash,
 - 2. By an acceptable bank letter of credit,
 - 3. Through an acceptable third-party guarantee (Residential Service Customers only),
 - 4. Other forms of security acceptable to Company.
- E. Deposits will be refunded to Business Service Customers at the sole discretion of Company.
- F. When Service has been terminated or disconnected, Company will deduct any and all unpaid amounts from the deposit, and the difference will be refunded, if applicable.
- G. Interest rates applied to Customer deposits held by Company are prescribed by the Commission.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.5. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS, Continued

2.5.6. Establishment of Credit

- A. In order to assure the proper payment of all Customer-incurred charges for service, the Company will require applicants for service and Customers to establish and maintain acceptable credit.
- B. The establishment or re-establishment of credit by an applicant or Customer will not relieve the applicant or Customer from compliance with other responsibilities, including the payment advance payments or bills, and in no way modify the provisions concerning disconnection and termination of service for failure to pay Customer-incurred charges for service rendered by the Company.
- C. The Company may refuse to furnish service to an applicant that has not paid charges for service of the same classification (residential or business) previously furnished by any telephone company until, at the option of the Company, the applicant pays any past due bill and/or makes deposit arrangements suitable to the Company.
- D. Applicants for residential service may establish credit by one of the following methods:
 1. If the applicant has verifiable previous service with any telephone company for at least twelve (12) months and the payment record on the account was satisfactory, the applicant may obtain service without a deposit; or
 2. If the applicant had not paid for prior service, or the prior service had been disconnected for nonpayment within the past twelve (12) months, the Company may require a deposit prior to the connection of telephone service; or
 3. If the applicant does not have verifiable service, or if the applicant had previous service for less than twelve (12) months, the applicant will be asked to provide further credit information. The applicant will be requested to provide proof of:
 - (a) home ownership;
 - (b) employment of two (2) years or more with the current employer;
 - (c) major oil company credit card;
 - (d) major credit company;
 - (e) checking account;
 - (f) savings account;
 - (g) age of 50 years or more.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.5. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS, Continued

2.5.6. Establishment of Credit, Continued

- E. If the applicant is unable to provide affirmative responses to two of these credit criteria in section 2.5.6.D., the Company may request the applicant to furnish a deposit prior to connection of telephone service.
- F. Applicants for business service may establish credit by submitting a business credit evaluation plan.
- G. If verification of an applicant's credit is required, the Company will provide service if the applicant furnishes advance payment of both the applicable charges for connection of service and the estimated charges for the first thirty (30) days of service.
- H. If the verification of credit results in unsatisfactory credit information, the applicant will be informed of the reason or reasons for denial of credit, after which the Company may refuse to provide or continue service until the Customer provides a deposit, pursuant to section 2.5.5.
- I. An existing Customer may be required to reestablish credit by the payment or increase of a cash deposit, pursuant to section 2.5.5, when any of the following conditions occur:
 - 1. During the first twelve (12) months that a customer receives service, the Customer pays late three (3) times or has service disconnected by the Company for nonpayment two (2) times;
 - 2. After the first twelve (12) months that the Customer has received service, the Customer has had service disconnected two (2) times by the Company or the Company provides evidence that the Customer used a device or scheme to obtain service without payment; or
 - 3. After the first twelve (12) months that a business Customer has received service, the business Customer pays late at least three (3) times during any twelve (12) month period.
- J. Payment by a Customer of past-due bills will not, of itself, relieve the Customer from the obligation of establishing credit.
- K. A Customer may be required to reestablish credit when the nature of service furnished or the basis on which credit was established has significantly changed.
- L. If a Customer fails to reestablish credit as required by the Company, service may be disconnected no sooner than five (5) days after delivery, or eight (8) days after mailing, of written notice of intention to disconnect.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.5. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS, Continued

2.5.7. Refusal or Cancellation of Service by Company

A. Refusal of Service

Company reserves the right to immediately discontinue furnishing the service to Customers without incurring liability if any of the following conditions exist:

1. The Applicant has an outstanding amount due for similar Services and is unwilling to make acceptable arrangements with the Company for payment;
2. A condition exists which in the Company's judgment is unsafe or hazardous to the Applicant, the general population, or the Company's personnel or facilities;
3. The Applicant is known to be in violation of the Company's Tariffs filed with the Commission;
4. The Applicant has failed to furnish such funds, suitable facilities, and/or rights-of-way necessary to serve the Applicant and which have been specified by the Company as a condition for providing Service;
5. Applicant falsifies his or her identity for the purpose of obtaining Service;
6. Service is requested at an address where Service has been discontinued for non-payment of bills for any service subject to this Service Guide and it is determined that the non-payment Customer or real users of the previously discontinued Service still reside at the address; or
7. The Service requested is not available for reasons cited elsewhere in this Service Guide.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.5. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS, Continued

2.5.7. Refusal or Cancellation of Service by Company, Continued

B. Discontinuance or Termination of Service

1. Company reserves the right to immediately discontinue furnishing Service to Customer for the following reasons:
 - (a) nonpayment of billed and delinquent charges, deposits, deferred payments owed to the telecommunications corporation;
 - (b) abusive use of the telephone services in a manner that interferes with the service of another person;
 - (c) intentionally using the service in a manner that causes wrongful billing charges to another person;
 - (d) intentionally using the service to transmit messages or to locate a person to give or obtain information, without payment of appropriate message charges;
 - (e) using the service with fraudulent intent by impersonating someone else;
 - (f) using the service for unlawful purposes;
 - (g) tampering with or destroying company lines, equipment or other properties;
 - (h) subterfuge or deliberately furnishing false information when applying for and obtaining telephone services;

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.5. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS, Continued

2.5.7. Refusal or Cancellation of Service by Company, Continued

B. Discontinuance or Termination of Service, Continued

2. Company may discontinue service according to the following conditions upon five (5) days written notice:
 - (a) For violation of Company's filed tariffs;
 - (b) For the non-payment of any proper charge as provided by Company's tariff, including one for the same class of service furnished to the applicant or Customer at the same or another location, or where the applicant or Customer voluntarily assumed, in writing, responsibility for the bills of another applicant or Customer;
 - (c) When the Company has reason to believe that a Customer has used a device or scheme to obtain service without payment and where the Company has so notified the Customer prior to disconnection; or
 - (d) Failure to meet or maintain the Company's credit requirements; or
 - (e) If the Customer provides false information to the Company regarding the Customer's identity, address, credit-worthiness, past, current or planned use of Company's services; or
 - (f) For Customer's breach of the contract for service between the Company and Customer; or
 - (g) Unauthorized resale of equipment or service.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.5. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS, Continued

2.5.7. Refusal or Cancellation of Service by Company, Continued

C. Service may not be terminated for the following reasons:

1. a delinquent account, accrued prior to the commencement of a divorce or separate maintenance action in the courts, in the name of a former spouse;
2. cohabitation of a current account holder with one who is a delinquent account holder who was previously terminated for non-payment, unless the current and delinquent account holders also cohabited during the time the delinquent account holder received the telecommunications corporation's service, whether such service was received at the current account holder's present address or another address;
3. delinquency in payment for service by a previous occupant at the premises to be served other than a member of the same family or household;
4. failure to pay any amount in a bona fide dispute before the Commission.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.5. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS, Continued

2.5.8. Cancellation of Application for Service

- A. Applications for Service cannot be canceled without the Company's agreement. Where the Company permits a Customer to cancel an application for Service prior to the start of Service or prior to any special construction, no charges will be imposed except for those specified below.
- B. Where, prior to cancellation by the Customer, the Company incurs any expenses in installing the Service or in preparing to install the Service that it otherwise would not have incurred, a charge equal to the costs incurred by the Company, less net salvage, shall apply, but in no case shall this charge exceed the sum of the charge for the minimum period of Services ordered, including installation charges, and all charges others levy against the Company that would have been chargeable to the Customer had Service commenced (all discounted to present value at six percent).
- C. Where the Company incurs any expense in connection with special construction, or where special arrangements of facilities or equipment have begun, before the Company receives a cancellation notice, a charge equal to the costs incurred by the Company, less net salvage, applies. In such cases, the charge will be based on such elements as the cost of the equipment, facilities, and material, the cost of installation, engineering, labor, and supervision, general and administrative expense, other disbursements, depreciation, maintenance, taxes, provision for return on investment, and any other costs associated with the special construction or arrangements.
- D. The special charges described in 2.5.8.A. through 2.5.8.C. will be calculated and applied on a case-by-case basis.

2.5.9. Changes in Service Requested

If the Customer makes or requests material changes in Circuit engineering, equipment specifications, Service parameters, Premises locations, or otherwise materially modifies any provision of the application for Service, the Customer's installation fee shall be adjusted accordingly.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.5. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS, Continued

2.5.10. General

If a Customer cancels a Service Order or terminates Services before the completion of the term for any reason whatsoever other than a Service Interruption (as set forth in Section 2.6. below), the Customer agrees to pay to the Company termination liability charges, as defined below. These charges shall become due as of the effective date of the cancellation or termination and be payable within the period, set forth above.

2.5.11. Termination Liability

The Customer's termination liability for cancellation of Service shall be equal to:

- A. all unpaid Non-Recurring charges reasonably expended by the Company to establish Service to the Customer; plus
- B. any disconnection, early cancellation or termination charges reasonably incurred and paid to third parties by the Company on behalf of the Customer; plus
- C. all Recurring Charges specified in the applicable Service Order Tariff for the balance of the then current term discounted at the prime rate announced in the *Wall Street Journal* on the third business day following the date of cancellation;
- D. minus a reasonable allowance for costs avoided by the Company as a direct result of the Customer's cancellation.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, Continued

2.6. SERVICE ORDER TERMINATION

2.6.1. General

If a Customer cancels a Service Order or terminates Services before the completion of the term for any reason whatsoever other than a Service Interruption (as set forth in Section 2.6. below), the Customer agrees to pay to the Company termination liability charges, as defined below. These charges shall become due as of the effective date of the cancellation or termination and be payable within the period, set forth above.

2.6.2. Termination Liability

The Customer's termination liability for cancellation of Service shall be equal to:

- A. all unpaid Non-Recurring charges reasonably expended by the Company to establish Service to the Customer; plus
- B. any disconnection, early cancellation or termination charges reasonably incurred and paid to third parties by the Company on behalf of the Customer; plus
- C. all Recurring Charges specified in the applicable Service Order Tariff for the balance of the then current term discounted at the prime rate announced in the *Wall Street Journal* on the third business day following the date of cancellation;
- D. minus a reasonable allowance for costs avoided by the Company as a direct result of the Customer's cancellation.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.7. ALLOWANCES FOR INTERRUPTIONS IN SERVICE

Interruptions in Service that are not due to the negligence of, or noncompliance with the provisions of this Service Guide, by the Customer or the operation or malfunction of the facilities, power or equipment provided by the Customer, will be credited to the Customer as set forth in 2.7.1 for the part of the Service that the Interruption affects.

2.7.1. General

- A. A credit allowance will be given when Service is interrupted, except as specified below. A Service is interrupted when it becomes inoperative to the Customer, i.e., the Customer is unable to transmit or receive, because of a failure of a component furnished by the Company under this Service Guide.
- B. An Interruption period begins when the Customer reports a Service, facility or Circuit to be inoperative and, if necessary, releases it for testing and repair. An Interruption period ends when the Service, facility or Circuit is operative.
- C. If the Customer reports a Service, facility or Circuit to be interrupted but declines to release it for testing and repair, or refuses access to its Premises for test and repair by the Company, the Service, facility or Circuit is considered to be impaired but not interrupted. No credit allowances will be made for a Service, facility or Circuit considered by the Company to be impaired.
- D. The Customer shall be responsible for the payment of Service charges as set forth herein for visits by the Company's agents or employees to the Premises of the Customer when the Service difficulty or trouble report results from the use of equipment or facilities provided by any party other than the Company, including but not limited to the Customer.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.7. ALLOWANCES FOR INTERRUPTIONS IN SERVICE, Continued

2.7.2. Limitations of Allowances

No credit allowance will be made for any interruption in Service:

- A. Due to the negligence of, or noncompliance with, the provisions of this Service Guide by any person or entity other than the Company, including but not limited to the Customer;
- B. Due to the failure of power, equipment, systems, connections or services not provided by the Company;
- C. Due to circumstances or causes beyond the reasonable control of the Company;
- D. During any period in which the Company is not given full and free access to its facilities and equipment for the purposes of investigating and correcting interruptions;
- E. A Service will not be deemed interrupted, if a Customer continues to voluntarily make use of such Service. If the Service is interrupted, the Customer can get a Service credit, use another means of communications provided by the Company (pursuant to Section 2.6.3), or utilize another service provider;
- F. During any period when the Customer has released Service to the Company for maintenance purposes or for implementation of a Customer order for a change in Service arrangements;
- G. That occurs or continues due to the Customer's failure to authorize replacement of any element of special construction; and
- H. That was not reported to the Company within thirty (30) days of the date that Service was affected.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.7. ALLOWANCES FOR INTERRUPTIONS IN SERVICE, Continued

2.7.3. Use of Another Means of Communications

If the Customer elects to use another means of communications during the period of Interruption, the Customer must pay the charges for the alternative service used.

2.7.4. Application of Credits for Interruptions in Service

- A. Credits for Interruptions in Service that is provided and billed on a flat rate basis for a minimum period of at least one month, beginning on the date that billing becomes effective, shall in no event exceed an amount equivalent to the proportionate charge to the Customer for the period of Service during which the event that gave rise to the claim for a credit occurred. A credit allowance is applied on a pro rata basis against the rates specified hereunder and is dependent upon the length of the Interruption. Only those facilities on the interrupted portion of the Circuit will receive a credit.
- B. For calculating credit allowances, every month is considered to have thirty (30) days.
- C. A credit allowance will be given for Interruptions of more than 24 consecutive hours. A one-day credit allowance will be provided for each 24 hour period of Interruption.
- D. Adjustments not in dispute will be rendered within two (2) billing periods after the billing period in which the Interruption occurred.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.8. USE OF CUSTOMER'S SERVICE BY OTHERS

2.8.1. Joint Use Arrangements

Joint use arrangements will be permitted for all Services provided under this Service Guide. From each joint use arrangement, one member will be designated as the Customer responsible for the manner in which the joint use of the Service will be allocated. The Company will accept orders to start, rearrange, relocate, or discontinue Service only from the designated Customer. Without affecting the Customer's ultimate responsibility for payment of all charges for the Service, each joint User shall be responsible for the payment of the charges billed to it.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.9. CANCELLATION OF SERVICE/TERMINATION LIABILITY

2.9.1. General

If a Customer cancels a Service Order or terminates Service before the completion of the term for any reason whatsoever other than a Service Interruption (as defined in Section 2.6.1 above), the Customer agrees to pay to the Company termination liability charges, as defined below. These charges shall become due as of the effective date of the cancellation or termination and be payable within the period, set forth in Section 2.5.2.

2.9.2. Termination Liability

The Customer's termination liability for cancellation of Service shall be equal to:

- A. all unpaid Non-Recurring charges reasonably expended by the Company to establish Service to the Customer; plus
- B. any disconnection, early cancellation or termination charges reasonably incurred and paid to third parties by the Company on behalf of the Customer; plus
- C. all Recurring Charges specified in the applicable Service Order Service Guide for the balance of the then-current term discounted at the prime rate announced in the *Wall Street Journal* on the third business day following the date of cancellation; minus
- D. a reasonable allowance for costs avoided by the Company as a direct result of the Customer's cancellation.

2.10. TRANSFERS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Neither the Company nor the Customer may assign or transfer its rights or duties in connection with the Services and facilities provided by the Company without the written consent of the other party, except that the Company may assign its rights and duties:

- to any subsidiary, parent company or affiliate of the Company; or
- pursuant to any sale or transfer of substantially all the assets of the Company; or
- pursuant to any financing, merger or reorganization of the Company.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.11. CUSTOMER LIABILITY FOR UNAUTHORIZED USE OF THE NETWORK

Unauthorized use of the network occurs when a person or entity that does not have actual, apparent, or implied authority to use the network, obtains the Company's Services provided under this Service Guide.

2.11.1. Customer Liability for Fraud and Unauthorized Use of the Network

- A. The Customer is liable for the unauthorized use of the network obtained through the fraudulent use of a Company calling card, if such a card is offered by the Company, or an accepted credit card, provided that the unauthorized use occurs before the Company has been notified.
- B. A company calling card is a telephone calling card issued by the Company at the Customer's request, which enables the Customer or User(s) authorized by the Customer to place calls over the Network and to have the charges for such calls billed to the Customer's account.

An accepted credit card is any credit card that a cardholder has requested or applied for and received, or has signed, used, or authorized another person to use to obtain credit. Any credit card issued as a renewal or substitute in accordance with this paragraph is an accepted credit card when received by the cardholder.

- C. The Customer must give the Company written or oral notice that an unauthorized use of a Company calling card or an accepted credit card has occurred or may occur as a result of loss, and/or theft.
- D. The Customer is responsible for payment of all charges for calling card Services furnished to the Customer or to Users authorized by the Customer to use Service provided under this Service Guide, unless due to the negligence of the Company. This responsibility is not changed due to any use, misuse, or abuse of the Customer's service or Customer-provided equipment by third parties, the Customer's employees, or the public.

The liability of the Customer for unauthorized use of the Network by credit card fraud will not exceed the lesser of fifty dollars (\$50.00) or the amount of money, property, labor, or Services obtained by the unauthorized User before notification to the Company.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.12. NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS

- 2.12.1.** The Customer shall designate on the Service Order an address to which the Company shall mail or deliver all notices and other communications, except that the Customer may also designate a separate address to which the Company's bills for Service shall be mailed.
- 2.12.2.** The Company shall designate on the Service Order an address to which the Customer shall mail or deliver all notices and other communications, except that Company may designate a separate address on each bill for Service to which the Customer shall mail payment on that bill.
- 2.12.3.** Except as otherwise stated in this Service Guide, all notices or other communications required to be given pursuant to this Service Guide will be in writing. Notices and other communications of either party, and all bills mailed by the Company, shall be presumed to have been delivered to the other party on the third business day following placement of the notice, communication or bill with the U.S. Mail or a private delivery service, prepaid and properly addressed, or when actually received or refused by the addressee, whichever occurs first.
- 2.12.4.** The Company or the Customer shall advise the other party of any changes to the addresses designated for notices, other communications or billing, by following the procedures for giving notice set forth herein.

2.13. TAXES, FEES AND SURCHARGES

The Company reserves the right to bill any and all applicable taxes, fees and surcharges in addition to normal rates and charges for Services provided to the Customer. Taxes and fees include, but are not limited to: Federal Excise Tax, State Sales Tax, Municipal Tax, and Gross Receipts Tax. Unless otherwise specified in this Service Guide, such taxes, fees and surcharges are in addition to rates as quoted in this Service Guide and will be itemized separately on Customer invoices.

SECTION 2 – REGULATIONS, Continued

2.14. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

2.14.1. Telephone Number Changes

Whenever any Customer's telephone number is changed after a directory is published, the Company shall, upon Customer's request, intercept all calls to the former number for the time requested by the Customer and give the calling party the new number, provided existing Central Office equipment will permit and the Customer so desires.

When Service in an existing location is continued for a new Customer, the existing telephone number may be retained by the new Customer only if the former Customer consents in writing, and if all charges against the account are paid or assumed by the new Customer.

SECTION 3 – SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS

3.1. APPLICATION OF RATES

3.1.1. Types of Charges

A. One Time Fees

1. Installation, Service Changes, Maintenance and Other Charges

a. Line Installation Fee

The installation fee is a nonrecurring charge that applies to the installation of a new line or transfer of an existing Service to a different location.

b. Technician Fee to Have New Jacks Installed

c. Feature Installation Fee

The addition of a vertical Service to existing equipment and/or Service at one location. Charge is per each new feature.

d. Temporary Disconnections & Reactivation Charge

This charge applies to the restoration of service and facilities that have been suspended because of nonpayment of bills and is payable at the time that the restoration of the suspended service and facilities is arranged. The restoration charge does not apply when, after permanent discontinuance of service, service is later reconnected. In the event of permanent discontinuance of service, other charges apply as set forth elsewhere in this Service Guide. (See Section 2.5.2(G).)

SECTION 3 – SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS, Continued

3.1. APPLICATION OF RATES, Continued

3.1.1. Types of Charges, Continued

B. Payment (Accounting) Fees

1. Check by Phone
2. Late Fee
3. Return Check Fee

C. Taxes

1. Customer Liability for Taxes, Surcharges, and Fees

Telephone usage is subject to all federal, state, local taxes, surcharges and mandated regulatory fees including but not limited to universal service fund, universal service fund carrier cost recovery fee and Access Line fees.

2. Service Surcharges

The following surcharges are only charged if the Customer subscribes to local Service.

- a. Federal Regulatory Fee (FCC)
- b. Local Number Portability (LNP)
- c. Federal Line Charge (EUCL)

SECTION 3 – SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS, Continued

3.1. APPLICATION OF RATES, Continued

3.1.2. Call Timing for Usage Sensitive Services

Where charges for a Service are specified based on the duration of use, such as the duration of a telephone call, the following rules apply.

- A. Calls are measured in durational increments identified for each Service. All calls which are fractions of a measurement increment are rounded-up to the next whole unit.
- B. Timing on completed calls begins when the call is answered by the called party. Answering is determined by hardware answer supervision in all cases where this signaling is provided by the terminating local carrier and any intermediate carrier(s).
- C. Timing terminates on all calls when the calling party hangs up or the Company's network receives an off-hook signal from the terminating carrier.

SECTION 3 – SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS, Continued

3.2. LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE AREAS

3.2.1. The Company provides Service within the service exchanges of BellSouth, LLC (AT&T). The Company concurs in, and hereby incorporates by this reference all current and effective service territory and local exchange boundary descriptions filed with the Commission by BellSouth, LLC.

3.2.2. Company's description of service area in no way compels Company to provide any Service in an area where facilities or other extenuating factors limit Company's ability to provide Service.

3.3. LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

3.3.1. Local Exchange Access Lines and Trunks

A. General

Local Exchange Access Lines and Trunks provide a Customer with analog, voice-grade telephonic communications Channels which can be used to place or receive one call at a time. Local Exchange Access Lines and Trunks provide a Customer with the ability to connect to the Company switching network which enables the Customer to:

1. place or receive calls to any calling station in the Local Calling Area;
2. access 911 and/or Enhanced 911 Emergency Service;
3. access the Interexchange Carrier selected by the Customer for interLATA, intraLATA, interstate or international calling;
4. access operator assisted Services for the Local Calling Area;
5. access directory assistance for the Local Calling Area;
6. place or receive calls to toll-free (e.g., 800, 8XX) telephone numbers;
7. access Telephone Relay Services; and
8. entitle the Customer to a directory listing of the main telephone number

SECTION 3 – SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS, Continued

3.3. LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE, Continued

3.3.1. Local Exchange Access Lines and Trunks, Continued

- B. For incoming Service, an optional hunting feature is available for multiline or multi-trunk Customers which routes a call to an idle line or Trunk in a prearranged group when the called line or Trunk is busy. Where facilities permit, more than one type of optional hunting arrangement may be provided.
- C. Local Exchange Access Lines and Trunks are provided for the connection of Customer-provided wiring and FCC Part 68 approved devices.
- D. Local Exchange Access Lines and Trunks are provided on a single party (individual) basis only. No multi-party Service is offered.
- E. Service is available on a flat rate, message or measured rate basis depending on the type of Service selected by the Customer. Not all Service types (flat, message, measured) will be available in all areas.
- F. RECURRING CHARGES FOR LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE ARE BILLED MONTHLY IN ADVANCE. USAGE CHARGES, IF APPLICABLE ARE BILLED IN ARREARS. USAGE CHARGES MAY APPLY FOR CALLS OR MINUTES PLACED FROM THE CUSTOMER'S LINES OR TRUNKS. NO USAGE CHARGES WILL APPLY TO CALLS RECEIVED BY THE CUSTOMER. NON-RECURRING CHARGES FOR INSTALLATION OR REARRANGEMENT OF SERVICE ARE BILLED ON THE NEXT BILL IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORK PERFORMED BY THE COMPANY.

SECTION 3 – SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS, Continued

3.4 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE FEATURES

Local Exchange Service features are available to Customers either on a subscription or per use basis. All features are provided subject to availability.

3.5. LOCAL SERVICE PACKAGE

Local Service Package includes unlimited local calling and either 1) 3 features chosen from the Company's calling features offered in Section 3.4 of this Tariff that are offered at a monthly recurring charge of \$3.95* in Section 4 of this Service Guide; or 2) Voice Mail. The monthly rate does not include: Directory Listing charges, Wire Maintenance Plan charges, federal, state and local taxes, Universal Service Fund, USF Carrier Cost Recovery fees, and any other mandated regulatory fees and surcharges.

3.6 OTHER SERVICES

3.6.1 Operator Assisted Calling Services

Customers have access to local and long distance operator assisted calling services. Calls may be billed collect to the called party or to the originating line. Local calls may be placed on a Station-to-Station basis or to a specified party (see Person to Person), or designated alternate. Usage charges for operator assisted calls may apply. In addition to usage charges, an operator assistance surcharge applies to each call as set forth in Section 4.

3.6.2. Calling Cards

Calling Card Service permits the caller to charge the principal presubscribed location for a call while the caller is away from the principal location. The Customer may place calls from any touch-tone phone in the Continental United States by dialing a toll free number and entering a personal identification code, followed by the desired telephone number. Calling Card calls appear on the Customer's monthly bill. Calling Card Usage is billed on a per call basis in one minute increments, with any portion of usage during a call amounting to less than a minute being rounded up to the next full minute.

3.6.3. Local Toll Free Service

Company's inbound toll free service permits local, intrastate interLATA and intraLATA, and interstate long distance calling utilizing a Customer's toll-free number. The Customer pays for the call.

SECTION 3 – SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS, Continued

3.6 OTHER SERVICES, Continued

3.6.4. Voice Mail¹

Company offers voice mail services under several options.

3.6.5. Inside Wire Maintenance Service Insurance²

Customers electing coverage for inside wire maintenance service will be covered immediately upon purchase of insurance when insurance is purchased at time of initial telephone service order on the insured line. Customers who do not elect to purchase insurance at time of initial telephone service but wish to add insurance at a later date may do so, but there will be a 30 day waiting period before a claim for insurance-covered repair may be filed.

Inside Wire Maintenance Service Insurance covers the labor rate for repair by the Company of inside wiring owned by the customer, including all standard wiring, jacks and connections. Insurance does not cover repair or other work by person other than the Company or the Company's contractors. Insurance does not apply to repair of any equipment or hardware such as telephones, facsimile machines, modems, and answering machines, and does not cover wiring owned by a third party. Insurance does cover isolation of a problem to a faulty piece of equipment or hardware. Signal cables or cords from a jack to a particular piece of hardware or equipment are not covered.

¹ Service not subject to Commission regulation.

² Service not subject to Commission regulation.

SECTION 3 – SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS Continued

3.7. DIRECTORY LISTINGS; DISTRIBUTION OF DIRECTORIES

3.7.1. The Company does not publish a directory or provide other similar listings of its Subscribers. The Company will arrange for Subscribers, other than Subscribers requesting non-published service, to be listed in the directories and directory assistance records of the incumbent Local Exchange Carrier (ILEC) serving the area where the Customer's premises is located. Except as provided below, such listings will be charged in accordance with the ILEC's listing service, subject to availability of such listing services to Company's Subscribers. The Company hereby concurs in such ILEC schedules on file with the Commission or price schedules that are current and effective as of the effective date of this Service Guide sheet. Except as provided below, subscribers are responsible for payment of all rates and compliance with all terms and conditions set forth in such tariffs or schedules.

3.7.2. Non-Published Service

At the request of the Customer, the Customer's name, address, and telephone number will not be listed in any directory or directory assistance records available to the public, except that the number may be included in reference listings. However, such information, along with call forwarding information from such numbers, will be released in response to legal process or to certain authorized governmental agencies.

3.8. DIRECTORY ASSISTANCE

Users of the company's calling services (excluding toll-free services) may obtain assistance in determining telephone numbers by calling the Directory Assistance operator. Each number requested is charged. Requests for information other than telephone numbers will be charged the same rate as shown for the applicable request for telephone numbers. Call completion may be provided without additional charge for calls within the LATA. However, intraLATA long distance or local message charges apply if applicable. Call completion is provided on Public Access Lines where facilities permit.

3.9. LOCAL EXCHANGE CARRIER BILLING PLAN

Company offers a local exchange carrier billing plan exclusively to its interexchange Service Subscribers. Interexchange Service subscribers who are presubscribed to the dominant incumbent local exchange carriers local service may opt for the convenience of receiving Company interexchange carrier billing under a single local exchange carrier invoice, where available. Local Exchange Carrier Billing Plan subscribers also receive a lower per minute interexchange Service usage rate when selecting this option.

SECTION 3 – SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS, Continued

3.10. 900/976 BLOCKING

- 3.10.1** The Company will, upon a Subscriber's request and where technically feasible, block calls placed from the Subscriber's telephone to intrastate 976 numbers and intrastate or interstate 900 numbers, whether directly dialed or placed through operator assisted service provided by the Company's operators. Call Blocking and Remove Call Blocking charges apply as specified below. At central offices where per-line blocking is not technically feasible, all calls to 976 and 900 numbers will be blocked.
- 3.10.2.** The Company may block calls placed from a Subscriber's telephone to intrastate 976 numbers and intrastate or interstate 900 numbers if the Subscriber fails or refuses to pay any charges billed by the Company for calls to such numbers, except for any charges for which adjustments have been granted. Call Blocking and Remove Call Blocking charges apply as specified below.
- 3.10.3.** The Company may block calls placed from a Subscriber's telephone to intrastate 976 numbers and intrastate or interstate 900 numbers if the accrued, unpaid charges to be billed by the Company for calls to such numbers at any time exceeds \$150 and the Company is unable to contact the Subscriber to assure the Subscriber's agreement to pay for such calls. Call Blocking and Remove Call Blocking charges will not apply.

SECTION 3 – SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS, Continued

3.11 INTEREXCHANGE SERVICES

- 3.11.1. Company provides switched access interexchange telecommunications Services, which allow a Customer to establish a communications path between two stations by using uniform dialing plans.
- 3.11.2. **Outbound “1+” Service** is a switched access Service offering outbound long distance telecommunications Services from points originating and terminating in the State. Company’s **Outbound “1+” Service** is offered under a direct billing option or a local exchange carrier billing option. The local exchange carrier billing option offers the convenience of Company Service charges appearing on the Customer’s presubscribed local exchange carrier bill. Company offers two local exchange carrier billing option Service Plans: 1) The **Reduced Interstate Rate Plan** carries a higher intrastate per minute rate and lower interstate per minute rate. This Plan is designed for those with higher interstate calling volumes; and 2) The **Reduced Intrastate Rate Plan** carries a lower per minute intrastate rate and higher interstate per minute rate. This Plan is designed for those with higher intrastate calling volumes.
- 3.11.3. **Directory Assistance** is provided by the Company’s underlying carrier to Subscribers of record. The Customer may access the underlying carrier’s Directory Assistance by dialing the area code plus 555-1212. The Customer will be billed for such Service by Company, except as stated in this Tariff.
- 3.11.4. **Toll Free Service** is a switched access Service offering inbound, toll free, long distance telecommunications Services from points originating and terminating in the State of Texas. This Service enables the caller to contact the Customer without incurring toll charges, through the use of an assigned “800, 866, 877” or other designated Toll-Free Number. The Customer pays for the call. Company will participate in porting toll-free numbers only if the account balance is zero and all undisputed charges incurred as a result of the toll-free number have been paid.

SECTION 3 – SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS, Continued

3.12. PROMOTIONS

The Company may, from time to time, engage in special promotions of new or existing Service offerings of limited duration designed to attract new Customers or to increase existing Customer awareness of a particular offering. The promotional offerings are subject to the availability of the Services and may be limited to a specific geographical area or to a subset of a specific market group; provided, however, all promotional offerings shall be offered in accordance with applicable Commission rules or regulations.

3.13. INDIVIDUAL CASE BASIS ARRANGEMENTS

When the Company furnishes a facility or Service for which a rate or charge is not specified in the Company's Service Guide, or when the Company offers rates or charges which may vary from Service Guide arrangements, rates and charges will be determined on an Individual Case Basis (ICB). The rates and charges for ICBs will be specified by contract between the Company and the Customer.

SECTION 4 – RATES

4.1. LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

The following rates are applicable to bundled single line local exchange and toll service for commercial subscribers.

Plan 2¹

Service Establishment, per line, per order	\$49.99
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Service Charge (includes unlimited calling within Subscriber’s Local Calling Area, Travel Card, and the first 100 minutes of non-Travel Card combined outbound intraLATA, intrastate interLATA, and interstate interLATA toll calling per account (not per line) -- unused toll allowance is not carried forward from one month to the next ^{2,3} , per line, per month	\$40.00
--	---------

Rates for Outbound Toll Usage in Excess of Monthly Allowance, per minute^{2,3}

IntraLATA	\$0.079
Intrastate InterLATA	\$0.079
Interstate	\$0.039

¹ This Plan is available only to customers subscribing to two or more lines under this plan.

² Allowance and rates apply to calls between points in contiguous 48 states. For calls to or from international points or other points outside of contiguous 48 states, the Company’s generally-applicable rates for such calling apply.

³ Outbound Toll Usage (intraLATA, intrastate interLATA, and interstate) is accounted for on a per call basis in one minute increments, with any portion of a usage during a call amounting to less than a minute being rounded up to the next full minute.

SECTION 4 – RATES, Continued

4.1. LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE, Continued

Plan 3

Service Establishment, per line, per order \$49.99

Service Charge (includes unlimited calling within Subscriber's Local Calling Area, Travel Card, two Business Custom Calling Features, and the first 100 minutes of non-Travel Card combined outbound, intraLATA, intrastate interLATA, and interstate interLATA toll calling -- unused toll allowance is not carried forward from one month to the next^{1,2}) per line, per month \$47.00³

Rates for Outbound Toll Usage in Excess of Monthly Allowance, per minute^{1,2}

Intrastate IntraLATA	\$0.079
Intrastate InterLATA	\$0.079
Interstate	\$0.039

¹ Allowance and rates apply to calls between points in contiguous 48 states. For calls to or from international points or other points outside of contiguous 48 states, the Company's generally-applicable rates for such calling apply.

² Outbound Toll Usage (intraLATA, intrastate interLATA, and interstate) is accounted for on a per call basis in one minute increments, with any portion of a usage during a call amounting to less than a minute being rounded up to the next full minute.

SECTION 4 – RATES, Continued

4.1. LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE, Continued

Plan 6

Service Establishment, per line, per order	\$49.99
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Service Charge (includes unlimited calling within Subscriber’s Local Calling Area, Travel Card, and the first 500 minutes of non-Travel Card combined outbound, intraLATA, intrastate interLATA, and interstate interLATA toll calling per line -- unused toll allowance is not carried forward from one month to the next^{2,3})

first line, per month	\$62.50
each additional line, per month	\$40.00

Rates for Outbound Toll Usage in Excess of Monthly Allowance^{1,2}

IntraLATA	\$0.079
Intrastate InterLATA	\$0.079
Interstate	\$0.039

¹ Allowance and rates apply to calls between points in contiguous 48 states. For calls to or from international points or other points outside of contiguous 48 states, the Company’s generally-applicable rates for such calling apply.

² Outbound Toll Usage (intraLATA, intrastate interLATA, and interstate is accounted for on a per call basis in one minute increments, with any portion of a usage during a call amounting to less than a minute being rounded up to the next full minute.

SECTION 4 – RATES, Continued

4.1. LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE, Continued

Plan 9

Service Establishment per line, per order \$49.99

Service Charge per line, per month \$40.00

Rates for Outbound Toll Usage²

IntraLATA	\$0.059
Intrastate InterLATA	\$0.059
Interstate	\$0.059

Plan 10

Service Establishment per line, per order \$49.99

Service Charge (includes Call Waiting and 3 Way Calling)

per line, per month \$47.00

Rates for Outbound Toll Usage²

IntraLATA	\$0.059
Intrastate InterLATA	\$0.059
Interstate	\$0.059

² Outbound Toll Usage (intraLATA, intrastate interLATA, and interstate) is accounted for on a per call basis in one minute increments, with any portion of a usage during a call amounting to less than a minute being rounded up to the next full minute.

SECTION 4 – RATES, Continued

4.1. LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE, Continued

Premise Visit

Premise visit charges apply when a visit to the Customer's premise by a Company technician identifies a problem as either 1) no trouble found according to line testing performed at demarcation point, or 2) trouble found attributable to Customer provided equipment (CPE), or for new installations. Premise visit charges will not apply to customers subscribing to an Inside Wire Maintenance Plan.

The time period for which the Premise Visit charge is applied will commence at Company personnel's arrival at the Customer's premise and end when work is completed.

Charge Per Visit

First two hours, or any portion thereof	\$199.00
Each additional 15 minutes, or any portion thereof	\$ 20.00

Change Charges, Miscellaneous Service Charges (assessed per line or trunk, per order unless otherwise stated)

	<u>Non-Recurring Charge</u>	<u>Monthly Rate</u>
PIC Change Charge	\$8.26	N/C
Move Order	\$49.99	N/C
Telephone Number Change	\$49.99	N/C
Disconnect Charge	\$19.95	N/C
Reactivate Suspended Service, per BTN	\$49.99	N/C
Incumbent local exchange carrier billing option, per account	N/C	\$8.95
Installation Fee, per each new feature	\$7.99	N/C

SECTION 4 – RATES, Continued

4.2. LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE FEATURES

	Per Use	Per Month
Additional Message Capacity, Residence and Business		
50 Additional Message Capacity		\$5.95
100 Additional Message Capacity		\$10.95
Anonymous Call Rejection		No Charge
Billed Number Screening/Toll Restriction		No Charge
Business Complete-A-Call		No Charge
Business Voice Messaging Service Choice		\$18.95
Call Curfew		\$5.95
Call Forwarding Busy Line/Alternate Answer		\$7.50
Call Forwarding Busy Line/Don't Answer Expanded		\$7.50
Call Forwarding Busy Line/Don't Answer IntraOffice		\$7.50
Call Forwarding Customer Programmable		\$7.50
Call Forwarding Don't Answer/Alternate Answer		\$7.50
Call Forwarding Variable		\$7.50
Call Hold		\$7.50
Call Park		\$7.50
Call Pickup		\$7.50
Call Queuing		\$19.95
Call Rejection		\$7.50
Call Routing- Business only		\$9.95
Call Routing To Number- Business only		\$12.00
Call Trace		\$7.50
Call Trace Blocking		No Charge
Call Transfer		\$7.50
Call Waiting		\$7.50
Call Waiting ID		\$7.50
Caller ID		\$7.50
Caller ID Blocking		\$7.50
Caller ID with Privacy+SM		\$10.95

¹ No charge for initial selection of Caller I.D. blocking option. Blocking option may be changed one time at no charge.

SECTION 4 – RATES, Continued

4.2. LOCAL EXCHANGE Service Features, Continued

	Per Use	Per Month
Carrier Access Code Blocking		No Charge
Complete-A-Call, per use	\$1.50	
Continuous Redial, per use	\$0.50	
Continuous Redial Blocking		No Charge
Custom Number Services		\$300.00
CustomNet®		No Charge
Custom Ringing Service		\$7.50
Dial Call Waiting/Distinctive Alert		\$7.50
Dial Lock®		\$7.50
Directed Call Pickup		\$7.50
Do Not Disturb		\$7.50
Easy Access		\$2.95
Extension Mailbox- Residence & Business		\$6.95
I-Called SM Pay per use	\$1.95	
I-Called SM Originating Blocking		No Charge
I-Called SM Terminating Blocking		No Charge
International Blocking		No Charge
Intracall®/Home Intercom		\$7.50
Last Call Return, per use	\$0.65	
Last Call Return Blocking		No Charge
Listen Only Mailbox- Business only		\$19.95
Long Distance Alert		\$7.50
Long Distance Restriction		No Charge
Mailbox Only- Residence only		\$7.95
Message Notification- Residence and Business		\$5.95
Message Waiting Indication-Business		No Charge
Message Waiting Indication-Residence		No Charge
Multi-Line Hunting		\$7.50
No Solicitation®		\$7.95
One Number Service		\$4.95
Pay Per Call Restriction		No Charge
Remote Access Forwarding (Call Following)		\$6.95
Route to Other Number- Business only		\$12.00
Remote Call Forward (Market Expansion Line)		\$16.00
Scheduled Forwarding		\$7.50
Scheduled Greetings- Business only		\$7.50
Security Screen SM		\$7.50
Selective Call Forwarding		\$7.50
Selective Call Waiting		\$7.50
Series Hunting		\$7.50

SECTION 4 – RATES, Continued

4.2. LOCAL EXCHANGE Service Features, Continued

Service Features, Continued

	Per Month
Speed Calling	\$7.50
Talking Call Waiting	\$7.50
Three Way Calling	\$7.50
Three Way Calling Blocking	No Charge
Transfer Mailbox- Residence and Business	No Charge

4.3. OTHER SERVICES

Operator Assisted Calling Services

Calling Card Mechanized	\$0.27
Access fee	\$0.65
Calling Card, Operator Assisted	\$0.00
Operator Assisted, Station-to-Station	\$2.50
Operator Assisted, Person-to-Person	\$5.45
Usage, per minute - where applicable	\$0.059

Calling Card Service

Per minute	\$0.129
Access fee (per call)	\$0.65

Local Toll Free Service

Per Toll Free Number, Monthly	\$2.00
In State Originating, Per Minute	\$0.089

SECTION 4 – RATES, Continued

4.3. OTHER SERVICES, Continued

Voice Mail*

	<u>Monthly Charge</u>
1. Basic Package (includes 45-second greeting and 15 messages)	\$13.95
2. Gold Package (includes 60-second greeting and 25 messages)	\$14.95
3. Premier Package (includes 60-second greeting and 35 messages)	\$15.95

Inside Wire Maintenance Service Insurance†

Monthly recurring charge, per line covered	\$4.75
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* Service not subject to Commission regulation.

† Service not subject to Commission regulation.

SECTION 4 – RATES, Continued

4.4. DIRECTORY LISTINGS; DISTRIBUTION OF DIRECTORIES

Listing Fee		
Per initial listing (per month)		\$7.50
Per additional listing (per month)		\$7.50

Non-Published Service

Nonpublished Service Charge (per month, per line)		\$7.50
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Directory Assistance

Per call		\$1.85
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4.5. LOCAL EXCHANGE CARRIER BILLING PLAN

	Charge	Monthly
Local Exchange Carrier Billing Plan, per account		\$12.95
Intrastate, interexchange usage, per minute	\$0.099	
Intrastate, interexchange usage, per minute	\$0.049	

4.6. 900/976 BLOCKING

Call Blocking, per line, per order		\$5.00
Remove Call Blocking, per line, per order		\$5.00

SECTION 4 – RATES, Continued

4.1. INTEREXCHANGE SERVICES

138 Plan

Includes Outbound Toll (1+) and Inbound Toll-Free (e.g. 800) calling, plus calling card. All usage is billed in one minute increments with each partial minute of usage during a call being rounded up to the next whole minute.

Monthly Service Charge	\$3.95
Outbound Toll Usage (per minute)	
Intrastate	\$0.059
Interstate	\$0.059
Inbound Toll-Free Usage (per minute) ⁵	
Intrastate	\$0.089
Interstate	\$0.129
Calling Card Usage	
Access (per call)	\$0.65
Usage (per minute)	\$0.27

148 Plan

Includes Outbound Toll (1+) and Inbound Toll-Free (e.g. 800) calling, plus calling card. All usage is billed in one minute increments with each partial minute of usage during a call being rounded up to the next whole minute.

Monthly Service Charge	\$5.95
Outbound Toll Usage (per minute)	
Intrastate	\$0.069
Interstate	\$0.039
Inbound Toll-Free Usage (per minute) ¹	
Intrastate	\$0.089
Interstate	\$0.129
Calling Card Usage	
Access (per call)	\$0.65
Usage (per minute)	\$0.27

⁵ Calls initiated from payphone are subject to \$0.059-per-call surcharge.

SECTION 4 – RATES, Continued

4.1. INTEREXCHANGE SERVICES, Continued

150 Plan

Includes Outbound Toll (1+) and Inbound Toll-Free (e.g. 800) calling, plus calling card. All usage is billed in one minute increments with each partial minute of usage during a call being rounded up to the next whole minute.

Monthly Service Charge	\$5.95
Outbound Toll Usage (per minute)	
Intrastate	\$0.079
Interstate	\$0.059
Inbound Toll-Free Usage (per minute) ¹	
Intrastate	\$0.089
Interstate	\$0.129
Calling Card Usage	
Access (per call)	\$0.65
Usage (per minute)	\$0.27

151 Plan

Includes Outbound Toll (1+) and Inbound Toll-Free (e.g. 800) calling, plus calling card. All usage is billed in one minute increments with each partial minute of usage during a call being rounded up to the next whole minute.

Monthly Service Charge	\$9.95
Outbound Toll Usage (per minute)	
Intrastate	\$0.049
Interstate	\$0.049
Inbound Toll-Free Usage (per minute) ¹	
Intrastate	\$0.089
Interstate	\$0.129
Calling Card Usage	
Access (per call)	\$0.65
Usage (per minute)	\$0.27

¹ Calls initiated from payphone are subject to \$0.059-per-call surcharge.

¹ Calls initiated from payphone are subject to \$0.059-per-call surcharge.

SECTION 4 – RATES, Continued

4.1. INTEREXCHANGE SERVICES, Continued

152 Plan

Includes Outbound Toll (1+) and Inbound Toll-Free (e.g. 800) calling, plus calling card. All usage is billed in one minute increments with each partial minute of usage during a call being rounded up to the next whole minute.

Monthly Service Charge	\$6.95
Outbound Toll Usage (per minute)	
Intrastate	\$0.079
Interstate	\$0.049
Inbound Toll-Free Usage (per minute) ¹	
Intrastate	\$0.089
Interstate	\$0.129
Calling Card Usage	
Access (per call)	\$0.65
Usage (per minute)	\$0.27

153 Plan

Includes Outbound Toll (1+) and Inbound Toll-Free (e.g. 800) calling, plus calling card. All usage is billed in one minute increments with each partial minute of usage during a call being rounded up to the next whole minute.

Monthly Service Charge	\$7.95
Outbound Toll Usage (per minute)	
Intrastate	\$0.079
Interstate	\$0.039
Inbound Toll-Free Usage (per minute) ¹	
Intrastate	\$0.089
Interstate	\$0.129
Calling Card Usage	
Access (per call)	\$0.65
Usage (per minute)	\$0.27

¹ Calls initiated from payphone are subject to \$0.059-per-call surcharge.

¹ Calls initiated from payphone are subject to \$0.059-per-call surcharge.

SECTION 4 – RATES, Continued

4.1. INTEREXCHANGE SERVICES, Continued

155 Plan

Includes Outbound Toll (1+) and Inbound Toll-Free (e.g. 800) calling, plus calling card. All usage is billed in one minute increments with each partial minute of usage during a call being rounded up to the next whole minute.

Monthly Service Charge	\$5.95
Outbound Toll Usage (per minute)	
Intrastate	\$0.079
Interstate	\$0.059
Inbound Toll-Free Usage (per minute) ¹	
Intrastate	\$0.089
Interstate	\$0.129
Calling Card Usage	
Access (per call)	\$0.65
Usage (per minute)	\$0.27

156 Plan

Includes Outbound Toll (1+) and Inbound Toll-Free (e.g. 800) calling, plus calling card. All usage is billed in one minute increments with each partial minute of usage during a call being rounded up to the next whole minute..

Monthly Service Charge	\$9.95
Outbound Toll Usage (per minute)	
Intrastate	\$0.079
Interstate	\$0.029
Inbound Toll-Free Usage (per minute) ¹	
Intrastate	\$0.089
Interstate	\$0.129
Calling Card Usage	
Access (per call)	\$0.65
Usage (per minute)	\$0.27

¹ Calls initiated from payphone are subject to \$0.059-per-call surcharge.

SECTION 4 – RATES, Continued

4.1. INTEREXCHANGE SERVICES, Continued

170 Plan

170 Plan: includes Outbound Toll (1+) and Inbound Toll-Free (e.g. 800) calling, plus calling card. All usage is billed in one minute increments with each partial minute of usage during a call being rounded up to the next whole minute. A one-time \$50.00 credit applies on the Subscriber's account to be applied on the Subscriber's invoice on the seventh month of service if the Subscriber's account payments are current and the subscriber is in good standing.

Monthly Service Charge	\$9.95
Outbound Toll Usage (per minute)	
Intrastate	\$0.079
Interstate	\$0.079
Inbound Toll-Free Usage (per minute) ¹	
Intrastate	\$0.089
Interstate	\$0.129
Calling Card Usage	
Access (per call)	\$0.65
Usage (per minute)	\$0.27

4.2. SUSPENDED SERVICE REACTIVATION CHARGE

A Customer who's Service has been suspended, may request Service reconnection following resolution of the circumstance(s) resulting in suspension. A non-recurring reconnection charge applicable to each Customer account applies.

Suspended Service Reactivation Charge, per reconnection, per billing telephone number	\$19.99
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¹ Calls initiated from payphone are subject to \$0.059-per-call surcharge.



SECTION 4 – RATES, Continued

4.3. OTHER SERVICES, Continued

Voice Mail¹²

	<u>Monthly Charge</u>
1. Basic Package (includes 45-second greeting and 15 messages)	\$13.95
2. Gold Package (includes 60-second greeting and 25 messages)	\$14.95
3. Premier Package (includes 60-second greeting and 35 messages)	\$15.95

Inside Wire Maintenance Service Insurance¹³

Monthly recurring charge, per line covered	\$4.75
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¹² Service not subject to Commission regulation.

¹³ Service not subject to Commission regulation.

SECTION 5 – GRANDFATHERED SERVICES

5.1 Grandfathered Local Services

Plan 1³

Plan 1 is no longer available to new subscribers effective October 1, 2014.

A.	Service Establishment, per line per order	\$49.99
B.	Service Charge (includes unlimited calling within Subscriber’s Local Calling Area, Three-Way Calling, Toll-Free Number, Travel Card, and the first 100 minutes of non-Travel Card combined outbound intraLATA, intrastate interLATA, and interstate interLATA ⁴ toll calling -- unused toll allowance is not carried forward from one month to the next ¹), per line per month	\$31.95 ⁵
C.	Rates for Outbound Toll Usage in Excess of Monthly Allowance ¹	
	IntraLATA	\$0.079
	Intrastate intraLATA	\$0.079
	Interstate interLATA ⁴	\$0.039
D.	Rates for Toll Free Inbound Usage ²	
	Intrastate	\$0.089
	Interstate ⁴	\$0.129

¹ Outbound Toll Usage (intraLATA, intrastate interLATA, and interstate interLATA) is billed on a per call basis in one minute increments, with any portion of a usage during a call amounting to less than a minute being rounded up to the next full minute.

² Toll Free Inbound Usage is billed on a per call basis in one minute increments, with any portion of a usage during a call amounting to less than a minute being rounded up to the next full minute. A surcharge of \$0.59, per call, will be assessed for each call originated from a payphone.

³ As of the effective date of Advice Letter No. 15, this plan is no longer available; however, existing subscribers to this plan will continue to receive service under the plan

⁴ Allowance and rates apply to calls between points in contiguous 48 states. For calls to or from international points or other points outside of contiguous 48 states, the Company’s generally-applicable rates for such calling apply.

⁵ \$27.95 prior to June 14, 2018.

SECTION 5 – GRANDFATHERED SERVICES, Continued

5.1 Grandfathered Local Services, Continued

Plan 4^{1,5}

Plan 4 is no longer available to new subscribers effective October 1, 2014.

A.	Service Establishment, per line per order	\$49.99
B.	Service Charge (includes unlimited calling within Subscriber’s Local Calling Area, Travel Card, and the first 1000 minutes of non-Travel Card combined outbound intraLATA, intrastate interLATA, and interstate interLATA toll calling -- unused toll allowance is not carried forward from one month to the next. ^{2,3,4} , per line per month	\$42.99 ⁶
C.	Rates for Non-Permitted Uses and Usage Beyond Allowance ^{2,3,4}	
	IntraLATA	\$0.079
	Intrastate intraLATA	\$0.079
	Interstate interLATA	\$0.039

¹ This Plan is available only to customers subscribing to two or more lines under this plan.

² Allowance and rates apply to calls between points in contiguous 48 states. For calls to or from international points or other points outside of contiguous 48 states, the Company’s generally-applicable rates for such calling apply.

³ Unlimited calling allowance does not apply to use of service for telemarketing, dial-up internet connections, autodialing, or access to voice chat line services. If service is used for such purposes, the rates for Non-Permitted Uses will apply to all such calling.

⁴ Outbound Toll Usage (intraLATA, intrastate interLATA, and interstate interLATA) is accounted for on a per call basis in one minute increments, with any portion of a usage during a call amounting to less than a minute being rounded up to the next full minute.

⁵ This plan is no longer offered to new subscribers.

⁶ Rate will remain at \$41.99 until December 15, 2007.

SECTION 5 – GRANDFATHERED SERVICES, Continued

5.1 Grandfathered Local Services, Continued

Plan 5⁴

Plan 5 is no longer available to new subscribers effective October 1, 2014.

A.	Service Establishment, per line per order	\$49.99
B.	Service Charge (includes unlimited calling within Subscriber’s Local Calling Area, Travel Card, , two Business Custom Calling Features, and the first 1000 minutes of non- Travel Card combined outbound intraLATA, intrastate interLATA, and interstate interLATA toll calling -- unused toll allowance is not carried forward from one month to the next, ^{1,2,3} per line, per month	\$49.99
C.	Rates for Non-Permitted Uses and Usage Beyond Allowance ^{1,2,3}	
	IntraLATA	\$0.079
	Intrastate intraLATA	\$0.079
	Interstate interLATA	\$0.039

¹ Allowance and rates apply to calls between points in contiguous 48 states. For calls to or from international points or other points outside of contiguous 48 states, the Company’s generally-applicable rates for such calling apply.

² Unlimited calling allowance does not apply to use of service for telemarketing, dial-up internet connections, autodialing, or access to voice chat line services. If service is used for such purposes, the rates for Non-Permitted Uses will apply to all such calling.

³ Outbound Toll Usage (intraLATA, intrastate interLATA, and interstate interLATA) is billed on a per call basis in one minute increments, with any portion of a usage during a call amounting to less than a minute being rounded up to the next full minute.

⁴ This plan is no longer offered to new subscribers.

⁵ Rate will remain at \$48.99 until December 15, 2007.

SECTION 5 – GRANDFATHERED SERVICES, Continued

5.1 Grandfathered Local Services, Continued

Plan 8

Plan 8 is no longer available to new subscribers effective October 1, 2014.

A.	Service Establishment, per line, per order	\$49.99
B.	Service Charge (includes unlimited calling within Subscriber’s Local Calling Area, and toll calling at a per minute rate), per line per month	\$36.00
C.	Rates for Outbound Toll Usage ²	
	IntraLATA	\$0.059
	Intrastate intraLATA	\$0.059
	Interstate interLATA	\$0.059