



Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen Executive Director South Dakota Public Utilities Commission Capitol Building, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor 500 East Capitol Pierre, SD 57501

Re: Ionex Communications North, Inc. dba Birch Communications – Replacement Pages to Access Replacement Tariff

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

Enclosed for filing please find replacement pages to the access replacement tariff originally filed on October 16, 2009, on behalf of Ionex Communications North, Inc. dba Birch Communications. The Company has decided to remove the CMRS provisions from the proposed tariff. The Company again respectfully requests an effective date of November 18, 2009.

Please acknowledge receipt of this filing by date stamping the extra copy of this cover letter and returning it to me in the self-addressed, stamped envelope provided. Please contact me at (407) 740-3006 or <a href="mailto:com">croesel@tminc.com</a> should you have any questions. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Carey Roesel

Consultant to Ionex Communications North, Inc.

dba Birch Communications

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CR/gs Enclosure

cc:

Tara Jackson – Birch

file: tms: Birch – SD Access SDa0901a

#### **SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS**

Certain terms used generally throughout this tariff for the Access Services of this Company are defined below.

Access Code: A uniform seven digit code assigned by the Company to an individual Customer. The seven-digit code has the form 950-XXXX or 101XXXX.

<u>Access Service</u>: Switched Access to the network of an Interexchange Carrier for the purpose of originating or terminating communications.

Access Service Request (ASR): The industry service order format used by Access Service Customers and access providers as agreed to by the Ordering and Billing Forum.

Access Tandem: An Exchange Carrier's switching system that provides a concentration and distribution function for originating or terminating traffic between local switching centers and Customers' premises.

<u>Authorized User</u>: A person, firm, corporation or other entity that either is authorized by the Customer to use Access Services or is placed in a position by the Customer, either through acts or omissions, to use Access Services.

Carrier or Common Carrier: See Interexchange Carrier or Exchange Carrier.

<u>Co-Carrier</u>: Any other Telecommunications provider authorized by the Commission to provide local exchange service in the state.

Commission - Refers to the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission.

Common Channel Signaling (CCS): A high-speed packet switched communications network which is separate (out of band) from the public packet switched and message networks. It is used to carry addressed signaling messages for individual trunk circuits and/or database related services between signaling points in the CCS network.

Issued: October 19, 2009 Effective: November 18, 2009

Issued By: Christopher J. Bunce, Vice President Legal, and General Counsel Ionex Communications North, Inc. dba Birch Communications

#### **SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS, (CONT'D)**

<u>Interexchange Carrier (IXC)</u> or <u>Interexchange Common Carrier</u>: Any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, governmental entity or corporation engaged in state or foreign communication for hire by wire or radio, between two or more exchanges.

<u>LATA</u>: 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 for the provision and administration of communications services.

<u>Line Information Data Base (LIDB)</u>: The data base which contains base information such as telephone numbers, calling card numbers and associated billed number restriction data used in connection with the validation and billing of calls.

<u>Local Access</u>: The connection between a Customer's premises and a point of presence of the Exchange Carrier.

<u>Local Switching Center</u>: The switching center where telephone exchange service Customer station Channels are terminated for purposes of interconnection to each other and to interoffice Trunks.

Meet Point: A point of interconnection that is not an end office or tandem.

<u>Meet Point Billing</u>: The arrangement through which multiple Exchange Carriers involved in providing Access Services, divide the ordering, rating, and billing of such services on a proportional basis, so that each Exchange Carrier involved in providing a portion of the Access Service agrees to bill under its respective tariff.

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#### **SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS, (CONT'D)**

<u>Recurring Charges</u>: The monthly charges to the Customer for services, facilities and equipment, which continue for the agreed upon duration of the service.

<u>Service Order</u>: The written request for Network Services executed by the Customer and the Company in a format devised by the Company; or, in the alternative, the submission of an Access Service Request by the Customer in the manner specified in this tariff.

<u>Service(s)</u>: The Company's telecommunications Access Services offered on the Company's Network.

<u>Signaling Point of Interface</u>: The Customer designated location where the SS7 signaling information is exchanged between the Company and the Customer.

<u>Signaling System 7 (SS7)</u>: The common Channel Out of Band Signaling protocol developed by the Consultative Committee for International Telephone and Telegraph (CCITT) and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

<u>Switched Access Service</u>: Access to the switched network of an Exchange Carrier for the purpose of originating or terminating communications. Switched Access is available to carriers, as defined in this tariff.

<u>Trunk</u>: A communications path connecting two switching systems in a network, used in the establishment of an end-to-end connection.

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#### **SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D)**

- 2.3 Obligations of the Customer, (Cont'd)
  - Jurisdictional Reporting, (Cont'd) 2.3.3
    - F. [Reserved for Future Use]

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