

REGULATIONS

A. UNDERTAKING OF THE COMPANY

1. Scope

The Company undertakes to furnish access services in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in this tariff.

2. Shortage of Facilities

All service is subject to the availability of suitable facilities. The Company reserves the right to limit the length of communications or to discontinue furnishing services when necessary because of the lack of transmission medium capacity or because of any causes beyond its control.

3. Terms and Conditions

- a. Service is provided on the basis of a minimum period of at least one month, 24 hours per day. For the purpose of computing charges in this tariff, a month is considered to have 30 days.
- b. 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 tariff. Customers will also be required to execute any other documents as may be reasonably requested by the Company.
- c. In any action between the parties to enforce any provision of this tariff, 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.

4. Liability of the Company

- a. Except as otherwise stated in this Tariff, the liability of the Company for damages arising out of 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 arising out of the failure to furnish the service, whether caused by acts or omission, shall be limited to the extension of allowances for interruption as set forth in Part II, Section G., except to the extent that

A. UNDERTAKING OF THE COMPANY (cont'd.)

the Commission's rules require credits for service interruptions in excess of 24 hours. The extension of such allowances for interruption shall be the sole remedy of the Customer and the sole liability of the Company. The Company will not be liable for any direct, indirect, incidental, special, consequential, exemplary or punitive damages to the Customer as a result of any Company service, equipment or facilities, or any acts or omissions or negligence of the Company's employees or agents.

- b. The Company shall not be liable for any delay or failure of performance or equipment due to causes beyond its control, including but not limited to: acts of God, fire, flood, explosion or other catastrophes; any law, order, regulation, direction, action, or request of the United States government, or of any other government, including state and local governments having or claiming jurisdiction over the Company, or of any department, agency, commission, bureau, corporation, or other instrumentality of any one or more of these federal, state, or local governments, or of any civil or military authority; national emergencies; insurrections; riots; wars; or unavailability of rights-of-way materials.
- c. Except for proration of monthly charges as required by the Commission's rules, the Company shall not be liable for (a) any act or omission of any entity furnishing to the Company or to the Company's Customers facilities or equipment used for interconnection with Network Services; or (b) for the acts or omissions of common carriers or warehousemen.
- d. The Company shall not be liable for any damages or losses due to the fault or negligence of the Customer or due to the failure or malfunction of equipment or facilities provided by the Customer or the Customer's supplier.
- e. The Company does not guarantee nor make any warranty with respect to installations it provides for use in an explosive atmosphere. The Customer indemnifies and holds the Company harmless from any and all loss, claims, demands, suits, or other action, or any liability whatsoever, whether suffered, made, instituted, or asserted by any other party or person(s), and for any loss, damage, or destruction of any property, whether owned by the Customer or others, caused or claimed to have been caused directly or indirectly by the installation, operation, failure to operate,

Date Filed: 7/01/99

Effective: 8/01/99

By: James J. McKenna, Vice President

A. UNDERTAKING OF THE COMPANY (cont'd.)

maintenance, removal, presence, condition, location, or repair or restoration of any installation so provided. The Company reserves the right to require each Customer to sign an agreement acknowledging acceptance of the provisions of this Part II, Section A.4.e., as a condition precedent to such installations.

- f. The Company is not liable for any defacement of or damage to Customer premises resulting from the furnishing of services or equipment on such Premises or the installation or removal thereof, unless such defacement or damage is caused by gross negligence or willful misconduct of the Company's agents or employees.
- g. The Company shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by the Customer against any claim, loss or damage arising from Customer's use of services, involving claims for libel, slander, invasion of privacy, or infringement of copyright arising from the Customer's own communications.
- h. Except for proration of monthly charges as required by the Commission's rules, the entire liability for any claim, loss, damage or expense from any cause whatsoever shall in no event exceed sums actually paid the Company by the Customer for the specific services in the month in which the event giving rise to the liability occurred.
- i. 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.

5. Claims

The Company shall be indemnified and saved harmless by the Customer from and against all loss, liability, damage and expense, including reasonable counsel fees, due to claims of libel, slander, or infringement of copyright in connection with the material transmitted over the Company's facilities; and any other claim resulting from any act or omission of the Customer or end users of the Customer relating to the use of the Company's services or facilities.

A. UNDERTAKING OF THE COMPANY (cont'd.)

6. Provision of Equipment and Facilities

- a. Except as otherwise indicated, customer-provided station equipment at the Customer's premises for use in conjunction with this service shall be so constructed, maintained and operated as to work satisfactorily with the facilities of the Company.
- b. The Company shall not be responsible for the installation, operation or maintenance of any Customer-provided communications equipment. Where such equipment is connected to service furnished pursuant to this tariff, the responsibility of the Company shall be limited to the furnishing of services under this tariff and to the maintenance and operation of such services in the proper manner. Subject to this responsibility, the Company shall not be responsible for:
 1. the through transmission of signals generated by Customer-provided equipment or for the quality of, or defects in, or
 2. the reception of signals by Customer-provided equipment; or
 3. network control signaling where such signaling is performed by Customer-provided network control signaling equipment.

7. Ownership of Facilities

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

B. PROHIBITED USES

1. The services the Company offers shall not be used for any unlawful purpose or for any use for which the Customer has not obtained all required governmental approvals, authorization, licenses, consents and permits.
2. The Company may require applicants for service who intend to use the Company's offering 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 regulations, policies, orders, and decisions.

Date Filed: 7/01/99

Effective: 8/01/99

By: James J. McKenna, Vice President

B. PROHIBITED USES (cont'd.)

3. The Company may require a Customer to immediately shut down its transmission if such transmission is causing interference to others.
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, except in the case of an STS provider. For such a provider, notice of transfer should be being to Company as soon as possible. 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 access 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 tariff will apply.

C. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER

1. Customer Premises Provisions

- a. The Customer shall provide the personnel, power and space required to operate all facilities and associated equipment installed on the premises of the Customer.
- b. The Customer shall be responsible for providing Company personnel access to premises of the Customer at any reasonable hour for the purpose of testing the facilities or equipment of the Company.

2. Liability of the Customer

The Customer will be liable for damages to the facilities of the Company caused by Negligence or willful acts of its offices, employees, agents or contractors of the Customer where such negligence is not the direct result of the Company's negligence.

3. Jurisdictional Report Requirements

- a. For Feature Group B Switched Access Service(s) for both interstate and intrastate use, the projected interstate percentage of use must be provided by the Customer in a whole number to the Company. The Company will designate the number obtained by subtracting the projected interstate percentage of use from 100 ($100 - \text{projected interstate percentage} = \text{intrastate percentage}$) as the projected intrastate percentage of use. When a Customer orders Feature Group B Switched Access Service, the Customer shall state, in its order, the projected

Date Filed: 7/01/99

Effective: 8/01/99

By: James J. McKenna, Vice President

C. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER (cont'd.)

Percent Interstate Usage (PIU) factor for Feature Group B Switched Access Service group ordered.

For Feature Group D Switched Access Service(s), the Company, where jurisdiction can be determined from the call detail, will determine the projected Interstate percentage as follows. For originating access minutes, the projected interstate percentage will be developed on a monthly basis by end office trunk group when the Feature Group D Switched Access Service access minutes are measured by dividing the measured interstate originating access minutes (the access minutes where the calling number is in one state and the called number is in another state) by the total originating access minutes when the call detail is adequate to determine the appropriate jurisdiction. For terminating access minutes, the Customer has the option to provide the Company with a projected PIU factor. Customers who provide a PIU factor shall supply the Company with an interstate percentage of the feature Group D terminating access minutes for each account to which the Customer may terminate traffic.

Should the Customer not supply a terminating PIU Factor, the data used by the Company to develop the projected interstate percentage for originating access minutes will be used to develop projected interstate percentage for such terminating access minutes. When a Customer orders Feature Group D Switched Access Service, the Customer shall supply a projected interstate percentage of use for each end office trunk group involved to be used in the event that originating call details are insufficient to determine the jurisdiction for the call. This percentage shall be used by the Company as the projected interstate percentage for such call detail. For purposes of developing the projected interstate percentage, the Customer shall utilize the same considerations as those set forth in Part II, Section C.3.b., following.

The Company will designate the number obtained by subtracting the projected interstate percentage for originating and terminating access minutes from 100 (100 - projected interstate percentage = intrastate percentage) as the projected intrastate percentage of use.

- b. For purposes of developing the projected interstate percentage, the Customer shall consider every call that enters the Customer's network at a point within the same

C. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER (cont'd.)

state as the state where the called station is located to be intrastate and every call that enters the Customer's network at a point in a state different from the state in which the called station is located to be interstate.

- c. These whole number percentages will be used by the Company to apportion the use, rates, and/or nonrecurring charges between interstate and intrastate until a revised report is received.
- d. The projected interstate percentage of use will be used to determine the charges as follows:

The number of access minutes for a trunk group will be multiplied by the projected interstate percentage of use to determine the interstate access minutes. (i.e., number of access minutes x projected interstate percentage of use interstate access minutes). The number of interstate access minutes so determined will be subtracted from the total number of access minutes (i.e., number of access minutes - interstate access minutes = intrastate access minutes). The interstate access minutes for the group will be billed as set forth in Part V following.

- e. Effective on the first of January, April, July and October of each year, the Customer may update the jurisdictional reports that require a projected interstate percentage. The Customer shall forward to the Company, to be received no later than 20 calendar days after the first of each such month, a revised report showing the interstate percentage of use for the past three months ending the last day of December, March, June and September, respectively, for each service arranged for interstate and intrastate use. Except as set forth in Part II, Section C.3.a., preceding where jurisdiction can be determined from the recorded message detail, the revised report will serve as the basis for the next three months billing and will be effective on the bill date in the following month (i.e., February, May, August, and November) for that service. No prorating or back billing will be done based on the report. If the Customer does not supply the report, the Company will assume the percentage to be the same as that provided in the last quarterly report. For those Cases in which a quarterly report has never been received from the Customer, the Company will assume the percentage to be the same as- that provided in the order

Date Filed: 7/01/99

Effective: 8/01/99

By: James J. McKenna, Vice President

C. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER (cont'd.)

for service as set forth in Part II, Section C.3.a., preceding.

- f. The Customer reported projected interstate percentage of use as set forth in Part II, Section C.3.a., preceding will be used for the apportionment of any monthly rates or nonrecurring charges associated with Feature Groups B or D Switched Access Service until the end of the quarter during which the service was activated. Thereafter, a projected interstate percentage for such apportionment will be developed quarterly by the Company based on the data used to develop the projected interstate percentage of use as set forth in Part II, Section C.3.a., preceding. Where call detail is insufficient to make such a determination, the Customer will be requested to project a interstate percentage of use to be used by the Company for such apportionment.
- g. The Customer shall keep sufficient detail from which the percentage of interstate use can be ascertained and upon request of the Company make the records available for inspection. Such a request will be initiated by the Company no more than once per year. The Customer shall supply the data within 30 calendar days of the Company request.
- h. The Customer may provide an additional percentage of interstate use for Entrance Facility and Direct Trunked Transport subject to the reporting Requirements previously listed in this section. The percentage of interstate use may be provided per individual facility or at the billing account level. Should the Customer not provide a percentage of interstate use, the Company will use the reported Feature Group B or Feature Group D aggregated percentage of interstate use.

D. CUSTOMER EQUIPMENT AND CHANNELS

1. Interconnection of Facilities

- a. In order to protect the Company's facilities and personnel and the services furnished to other Customers by the Company from potentially harmful effects, the signals applied to the Company's service shall be such as not to cause damage to the facilities of the Company. Any special interface equipment necessary to achieve the compatibility between facilities of the Company and the channels or facilities of others shall be provided at the Customer's expense.

D. CUSTOMER EQUIPMENT AND CHANNELS (cont'd.)

2. Inspections

- a. The Company may, upon notification to the Customer, at a reasonable time, make such tests and inspections as may be necessary to determine that the requirements regarding the equipment and interconnections are being complied with in respect to the installation, operation and maintenance of Customer - provided equipment and in the wiring of the connection of Customer channels to Company-owned facilities.
- b. If the protective requirements in connections with Customer-provided equipment are not being complied with, the Company may take such action as necessary to protect its facilities and personnel and will promptly notify the Customer by registered mail in writing of the need for protective action. In the event that the Customer fails to advise the Company within 10 days after such notice is received or within the time specified in the notice that corrective action has been taken, the Company may take whatever additional action is deemed necessary, including canceling service, to protect its facilities and personnel from harm. The Company will upon request 24 hours in advance provide Customer with a statement of technical parameters that the Customer's equipment must meet.

E. CUSTOMER DEPOSITS AND ADVANCE PAYMENTS

1. Advance Payments

To safeguard its interests, the Company may require a Customer to make an advance payment before services and facilities are furnished. The advance payment will not exceed an amount up to two months of estimated monthly usage charges. In addition, where special construction is involved, the advance payment may also include an amount equal to the estimated non-recurring charges for the special construction and recurring charges (if any) for a period to be set between the Company and the Customer. The advance payment will be credited to the Customer's initial bill. An advance payment may be required in addition to a deposit.

2. Deposits

- a. To safeguard its interests, the Company may require the Customer to make a deposit to be held as a guarantee for the payment of charges. A deposit does not relieve the Customer of the responsibility for the prompt payment of

E. CUSTOMER DEPOSITS AND ADVANCE PAYMENTS (cont'd.)

bills on presentation. The deposit will not exceed an amount equal to:

- (1) two month's charges for a service or facility;
- (2) (reserved for future use)

- b. A deposit may be required in addition to an advance payment.
- c. When a service or facility is discontinued, the amount of a deposit, if any, will be applied to the Customer's account and any credit balance remaining will be refunded. Before the service or facility is discontinued, the Company may, at its option, return the deposit or credit it to the Customer's account. If the amount of the deposit is insufficient to cover the balance due to the Customer's account, the Company retains the right to collect any amounts owing after the deposit has been applied plus any costs related to the collection of any remaining balance.
- d. Deposits held will accrue interest at the rate of 7.0% per annum, compounded annually, without deductions for any taxes on such deposits. Interest will accrue on any deposit until the amount escheats to the State pursuant to law.

F. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS

1. Payment for Service

The Customer is responsible for the payment of all charges for facilities and services furnished by the Company to the Customer.

a. Taxes

The Customer is responsible for payment of any sales, use, gross receipts, excise, access or other local, state and federal taxes, charges or surcharges (excluding taxes on the Company's net income) imposed on or based upon the provision, sale or use of Network Services, unless prohibited by state or federal regulation.

2. Billing and Collection of Charges

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

Date Filed: 7/01/99

Effective: 8/01/99

By: James J. McKenna, Vice President

F. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS (cont'd.)

- a. Non-recurring charges are due and payable within 30 days after the date of the invoice.
- 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 30 days after the date of the invoice. When billing is based upon customer usage, usage charges will be billed monthly for the preceding billing period.
- 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 prorate basis. For this purpose, every month is considered to have 30 days.
- d. Billing of the Customer by the Company will begin on the Service Commencement Date, which is the day on which the Company notifies the Customer that the service or facility is available for use, except that 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 tariff 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 received by the Company after the date due, or if any portion of the payment is received by the Company in funds which are not immediately available upon presentment, then a late payment penalty shall be due to the Company. The late payment penalty shall be the portion of the payment not received by the date due, multiplied by a late factor. The late factor shall be the lesser of.
 1. a rate of 0.000590 per day, compounded daily; or
 2. the highest interest rate which may be applied under state law for commercial transactions.
- f. The Customer will be assessed a charge of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) for each check submitted by the Customer to the Company which a financial institution refuses to honor.
- g. (reserved for future use)

Date Filed: 7/01/99

Effective: 8/01/99

By: James J. McKenna, Vice President

F. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS (cont'd.)

h. If service is disconnected by the Company in accordance with Part II, Section F.3., following and later restored, restoration of service will be subject to all applicable installation charges.

3. Discontinuance of Service for Cause

- a. Upon nonpayment of any amounts owing to the Company, the Company may, pursuant to the Commission's rules, discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability.
- b. Upon violation of any of the other material terms or conditions for furnishing service the Company may, pursuant to the Commission's rules, discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability.
- c. Upon any governmental prohibition or required alteration of the services to be provided or any violation of an applicable law or regulation, the Company may immediately discontinue or alter service as required without incurring any liability.
- d. In the event of fraudulent use of the Company's network, the Company may without notice suspend or discontinue service. The Customer will be liable for all related costs. The Customer will also be responsible for payment of any reconnection charges.
- e. Upon the Company's discontinuance of service to the customer under Part II, Section F.3.a. or F.3.b., the Company, in addition to all other remedies that may be available to the Company at law or in equity or under any other provision of this tariff, may declare all future monthly and other charges which would have been payable by the Customer during the remainder of the term for which such services would have otherwise been provided to the Customer to be immediately due and payable.

4. Notice to Company for Cancellation of Service

Customers desiring to terminate service shall provide Company thirty (30) days written notice of desire to terminate service.

F. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS (cont'd.)

5. Ordering, Rating and Billing of Access Services Where More Than One Exchange Telephone Company is Involved

Meet point billing applies when more than one Exchange Telephone Company is involved in the provision of Access Service. All recurring and nonrecurring charges for services provided by each Exchange Telephone Company are billed under each company's applicable rates as set forth in Part II, Section F.5.a., following.

The Company accepts and adheres to the Ordering and Billing Forum guidelines, Multiple Exchange Carrier Access Billing (MECAB) and Multiple Exchange Carrier Ordering and Design (MECOD).

The Company will handle ordering, rating and billing of Access Services under this tariff where more than one Exchange Telephone Company is involved in the provision of Access Service as follows.

- a. For Feature Group B and/or D Switched Access Service, when the first point of switching is not in the same Exchange Telephone Company's territory as the Customer premises, the Customer must supply a copy of the order to the Exchange Telephone Company in whose territory the Customer premises is located and any other Exchange Telephone Company(s) involved in providing the service.

Each Exchange Telephone Company will provide the portion of Local Transport to an interconnection point (IP) with another Exchange Telephone Company, and will bill the charges in accordance with its Access Service tariff. The rate for the transport elements will be determined as set forth in (B) following. All other appropriate charges in each Exchange Telephone Company tariff are applicable.

- b. The charge for the Local Transport Facility and Termination rate elements for services provided as set forth in Part II, Section F.5.a., preceding are determined as follows:
 - (1) Determine the appropriate Switched Access Local Transport mileage by computing the airline mileage between the two ends of the Local Transport Facility, as defined in Part III, Section A.9.b., following. Determine the airline mileage for the Local Transport Facility charge using the V&H method as set forth in Part II, Section H.2., following.

Date Filed: 7/01/99

Effective: 8/01/99

By: James J. McKenna, Vice President

F. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS (cont'd.)

(2) For Feature Groups B or D Switched Access Service, the Local Transport Facility and Termination charges are determined by using the steps set forth in (a) through (c) following for the total Local Transport-Common Switched Transport charges.

(a) Multiply:

The number of access minutes

BY

The number of airline miles
as determined in (1) preceding)

BY

The Company's appropriate Local Transport
Facility per mile per access minute rate

BY

The Company's billing percentage factor.

(b) Multiply:

The number of access minutes

BY

The Company's appropriate Local Transport
Termination per minute rate. The resulting
amount is the Company's total Local Transport
Termination charge.

(c) Add:

The products of (a) and (b) for the Company's
total Local Transport-Common Switched
Transport charges.

- c. The interconnection points will be determined by the Exchange Telephone Companies involved. The billing percentage (BP) factor for the Company for the service between the involved offices will be listed in NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC. TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 4.
- d. Should any changes be made to the meet point billing arrangements as set forth in Part II, Section F.5.a., preceding, the Company will give affected Customers 30 days' notice.
- f. Should the Company act as an intermediate, non-terminating local exchange carrier, Local Transport Termination rates, as determined in Part II, Section F.5.b., preceding, will not be applied to the meet point billing arrangement.

F. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS (cont'd.)

6. 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 fees shall be adjusted according to the term and conditions set forth in Part II, Section A.3., following, Access Order Modifications.

7. Customer Overpayment

The Company will pay interest on a Customer overpayment. Customer overpayment shall mean a payment to the Company in excess of the correct charges for service when caused by erroneous billing by the Company. The rate of interest shall be the unadjusted interest rate paid on Customer deposits or the late payment penalty rate, whichever is greater. Interest shall be paid from the date when the Customer overpayment was made, adjusted for any changes in the deposit interest rate or late payment penalty rate, and compounded monthly, until the date when the overpayment is refunded. No interest shall be paid on Customer overpayments that are refunded within thirty (30) days after such overpayment is received by the Company.

G. ALLOWANCE FOR INTERRUPTIONS IN SERVICE

Except as set forth in Part II, Section A.4.b., preceding and Part II, Section G.1.b., following, interruptions in service, which are not due to the negligence of, or noncompliance with the provisions of this tariff 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 Part II, Section G.1.a., for the part of the service that the interruption affects.

1. Credit for Interruptions

- a. A credit allowance will be made when an interruption occurs because of a failure of any component furnished by the Company under this tariff. An interruption period begins when the Company becomes aware that the service, facility or circuit is interrupted and the Customer releases it for testing and repair. An interruption period ends when the service, facility or circuit is operative. If the Customer reports a service, facility or circuit to be inoperative but declines to release it for testing and repair, it is considered to be impaired, but not interrupted.

Date Filed: 7/01/99

Effective: 8/01/99

By: James J. McKenna, Vice President

G. ALLOWANCE FOR INTERRUPTIONS IN SERVICE (cont'd.)

b. For calculating credit allowances, every month is considered to have 30 days. A credit allowance is applied on a pro rate 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.

c. Credit allowances shall be made as follows:

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

2. Limitations on Allowances

No credit allowance will be made for:

- a. interruptions due to the negligence of, or noncompliance with the provisions of this tariff by the Customer, authorized user, joint user, or other common carrier receiving the service of the Company;
- b. interruptions due to the negligence of any person other than the Company;
- c. interruptions due to the failure or malfunction of end-user or Customer equipment;
- d. interruptions of service during any period in which the Company is not given full and free access to its facilities and equipment for the purpose of investigating and correcting interruptions;
- e. interruptions of service during a period in which the Customer continues to use the service on an impaired basis; or
- f. interruptions of service 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; except that a credit allowance will apply if the service interruption continues for more than 24 hours after the end of the service period for maintenance.

H. APPLICATION OF RATES

The regulations set forth in this section govern the application of rates for services contained in other sections of this tariff.

1. Charges Based on Duration of Use

Customer traffic to end offices will be measured by the Company at end office switches. Originating and terminating calls will be measured by the Company to determine the basis for computing chargeable access minutes.

For originating calls over Feature Group B or D, usage measurement begins when the originating Feature Group B or D switch receives the first wink supervisory signal forwarded from the Customer's point of termination.

The measurement of originating call usage ends when the originating Feature Group B or D switch receives disconnect supervision from either the originating end user's end office, indicating the originating end user has disconnected, or the Customer's point of termination, whichever is recognized first by the switch.

For terminating calls over Feature Group B or D, the measurement of access minutes begins when the terminating Feature Group B or D switch receives answer supervision from the terminating end user's end office, indicating the terminating end user has answered.

The measurement of terminating call usage over Feature Group B or D ends when the terminating Feature Group B or D switch receives disconnect supervision from either the terminating end user's end office, indicating the terminating end user has disconnected, or the Customer's point of termination, whichever is recognized first by the switch.

Access minutes or fractions thereof are accumulated over the billing period for each end office and are then rounded up to the nearest access minute for each end office.

2. Rates Based Upon Distance

Where the charges for service are specified based upon distance, the following rules apply:

- a. Distance between two points is measured as airline distance between the wire centers of the originating and terminating telephone lines. The wire center is a set of geographic coordinates, as referenced in NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC. TARIFF FCC No. 4,

H. APPLICATION OF RATES (cont'd.)

associated with each NPA-NXX combination (where NPA is the area code and NXX is the first three digits of a seven-digit telephone number).

b. The airline distance between any two wire centers is determined as follows:

- (1) Obtain the "V" and "H" coordinates for each wire center from the above-referenced NECA tariff.
- (2) Compute the difference between the "V" coordinates of the two wire centers; and the difference between the two "H" coordinates.
- (3) Square each difference obtained in step (2) above.
- (4) Add the square of the "V" difference and the square of the "H" difference obtained in step (3).
- (5) Divide the sum of the squares by 10. Round to the next higher whole number if any fraction is obtained.
- (6) Obtain the square root of the whole number result obtained above. Round to the next higher whole number if any fraction is obtained. This is the airline mileage.
- (7) Formula = $\frac{(V1 - V2)^2 + (H1 - H2)^2}{10}$ (square root)

3. Mileage

The mileage to be used to determine the Local Transport Facility monthly rates are calculated on the airline distance between the end office switch where the call carried by Local Transport originates or terminates and the customer's serving wire center. The V&H coordinates method is used to determine mileage. This method is set forth in Part II, Section H.2.

The Local Transport Facility mileage rates are shown in Part V, Section A.3., in terms of per mile per access minute. To determine the rate to be billed, first compute the mileage. Should the calculation result in a fraction of a mile, always round up to the next whole mile before determining the mileage. Then multiply the mileage by the appropriate Local Transport Facility rate. The amount to be billed shall be the product of this calculation (i.e., the number of

H. APPLICATION OF RATES (cont'd.) miles multiplied by the per mile rate) multiplied by the number of access minutes.	
--	--

Date Filed: 7/01/99

Effective: 8/01/99

By: James J. McKenna, Vice President