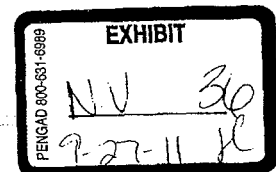


**Schenkenberg Aff.
Exhibit A**

SOUTH DAKOTA SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICES

A. CONCURRENCE IN RATES, TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF LOCAL
EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC. TARIFF NO. 1

1. Northern Valley Communications, LLC concurs in the rates, terms and conditions, except as noted below, of Local Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. Tariff No. 1 governing Intrastate Access Service as filed by the Local Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. in the State of South Dakota. Northern Valley Communications, LLC concurs in the current Local Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. Tariff No. 1 as of August 1, 2004 as shown by the attached TARIFF CHECKLIST pages. The only exceptions to this concurrence are the attached pages 17-1 and 17-4, which replace the current Local Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. Tariff No. 1 pages 17-1 and 17-4. (T)
2. Northern Valley Communications, LLC hereby expressly reserves the right to cancel or void this statement of concurrence at any time consistent with state law and the best interests of Northern Valley Communications, LLC by filing a replacement tariff with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission.



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Effective: September 1, 2004

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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions

Access Code

The term "Access Code" denotes a uniform access code assigned by the Telephone Company to an individual customer. The access code has the form 101XXXX or 950-XXXX.

(T)
|

Access Minutes

For the purpose of calculating chargeable usage, the term "Access Minutes" denotes customer usage of exchange facilities in the provision of intrastate service. On the originating end of an intrastate call, usage is measured from the time the originating end user's call is delivered by the Telephone Company to and acknowledged as received by the customer's facilities connected with the originating exchange. On the terminating end of an intrastate call, usage is measured from the time the call is received by the end user in the terminating exchange. Timing of usage at both originating and terminating ends of an intrastate call shall terminate when the calling or called party disconnects, whichever event is recognized first in the originating and terminating exchanges, as applicable.

Access Tandem

The term "Access Tandem" denotes a Telephone Company or centralized equal access provider switching system that provides a concentration and distribution function for originating or terminating traffic between end offices and a customer designated premises.

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By: Dean Anderson
President
P.O. Box 920
Clear Lake, SD 57226

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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

C-Notched Noise

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

Coin Station

See Pay Station.

Common Line

The term "Common Line" denotes a line, trunk, pay telephone line or other facility provided under the general and/or local exchange service tariffs of the Telephone Company, terminated on a central office switch. A common line-residence is a line or trunk provided under the residence regulations of the general and/or local exchange service tariffs. A common line-business is a line provided under the business regulations of the general and/or local exchange service tariffs.

Communications System

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

Customer(s)

The term "Customer(s)" denotes any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, corporation, or governmental entity or other entity which subscribes to the services offered under this tariff, including Interexchange Carriers (ICs).

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President
P.O. Box 637
Clear Lake, South Dakota 57226

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

End Office

The term "End Office" denotes a local Telephone Company switching system where Telephone Exchange Service customer station loops are terminated for purposes of interconnection to each other and to trunks. This term includes Remote Switching Modules/Systems served by a Host Central Office in a different wire center.

End User

The term "End User" means any customer of an interstate or foreign telecommunications service that is not a carrier, except that a carrier other than a telephone company shall be deemed to be an "end user" when such carrier uses a telecommunications service for administrative purposes, and a person or entity that offers telecommunications service exclusively as a reseller shall be deemed to be an "end user" if all resale transmissions offered by such reseller originate on the premises of such reseller.

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President
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Clear Lake, South Dakota 57226

ACCESS SERVICE

6. Switched Access Service6.1 General

Switched Access Service, which is available to customers for their use in furnishing their services to end users, provides a two-point communications path between a customer designated premises and an end user's premises. It provides for the use of common terminating, switching, and trunking facilities and for the use of common subscriber plant of the Telephone Company. Switched Access Service provides for the ability to originate calls from an end user's premises to a customer designated premises, and to terminate calls from a customer designated premises to an end user's premises in the LATA where it is provided. Specific references to material describing the elements of Switched Access Service are provided in 6.1.3 and 6.5 through 6.9 following.

Rates and charges for Switched Access Service are set forth in 17.2 following. The application of rates for Switched Access Service is described in 6.4 following. Rates and charges for services other than Switched Access Service, e.g., a customer's interLATA toll message service, may also be applicable when Switched Access Service is used in conjunction with these other services. Descriptions of such applicability are provided in 6.4.5, 6.5.1(H), 6.5.3, 6.6.1(G), 6.6.2(D), 6.7.1(F), and 6.8.1(E) following.

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