This tariff, Nebraska Tariff No. 5, issued by ACN Communication Services, LLC replaces in its entirety

Nebraska Tariff No. 2 issued by ACN Communication Services, Inc.

#### **NEBRASKA**

#### LOCAL EXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATINOS SERVICES TARIFF

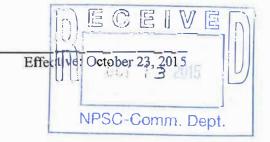
**OF** 

## ACN COMMUNICATION SERVICES, LLC

This tariff contains the descriptions, regulations, and rates applicable to the provision of local exchange telecommunications services provided by ACN Communication Services, LLC with principal offices at 1000 Progress Place, Concord, North Carolina 28025, for services furnished within the State of Nebraska. This tariff is on file with the Nebraska Public Service Commission, and copies may be inspected, during normal business hours, at the Company's principal place of business.

Issued: October 13, 2015

Issued by:

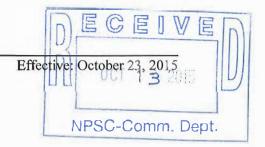


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## **CHECK SHEET**

Pages of this tariff are effective as of the date shown at the bottom of the respective page(s). Original and revised pages as named below comprise all changes from the original tariff and are currently in effect as of the date on the bottom of this page.

SECTION	<b>PAGE</b>	REVISION	<b>SECTION</b>	<b>PAGE</b>	REVISION
	Title	Original	2	20	Original
Preface	1	Original	2	21	Original
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2 2	10	Original	3	1	Original
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2	14	Original	4	4	Original
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<sup>\*</sup> included in this filing.

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Issued: June 20, 2024 Effective: July 1, 2024

Issued by:

Nebraska Tariff No. 5 Preface 4<sup>th</sup> Revised Page 3 Cancels 3<sup>rd</sup> Revised Page 3

# LOCAL EXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS TARIFF

# CHECK SHEET (CONT'D.)

5 5 5	PAGE 1 2 3	REVISION 2 <sup>nd</sup> Revised Original Original		6 6 6	7 8 9	REVISION Original Original Original
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Issued: June 20, 2024 Effective: July 1, 2024

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Treasurer/CFO 1000 Progress Place Concord, North Carolina 28025

Concord, North Carolina 28025

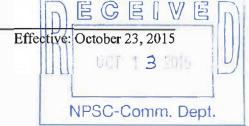
# EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS, REFERENCE MARKS, AND ABBREVIATIONS OF TECHNICAL TERMS USED IN THIS TARIFF

The following symbols shall be used in this tariff for the purpose indicated below:

- (D) To signify discontinued rate or regulation.
- (I) To signify increased rate.
- (M) To signify a move in the location of text.
- (N) To signify new rate or regulation.
- (R) To signify reduced rate.
- (T) To signify a change in text but no change in rate or regulation.

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#### APPLICATION OF TARIFF

This tariff sets forth the service offerings, rates, terms and conditions applicable to the furnishing of intrastate end-user local exchange communications services by ACN Communication Services, LLC, hereinafter referred to as the Company, to Customers within the State of Nebraska. ACN's services are furnished subject to the availability of facilities and subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein.

This tariff is on file with the Nebraska Public Service Commission. In addition, this tariff is available for review at the main office of ACN Communication Services, LLC at 1000 Progress Place, Concord, North Carolina 28025.

All Services in this tariff are grandfathered and available to existing Customers at existing locations only. Moves, adds or changes are not available for existing services and services are not available for new installations.

**(C)** 

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Issued: July 26, 2019

Issued by:

Treasurer/CFO 1000 Progress Place Concord, North Carolina 28025 Effective: August 15, 2019

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#### **TARIFF FORMAT**

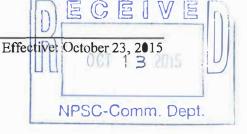
- A. Page Numbering Page numbers appear in the upper right corner of the page. Pages are numbered sequentially. However, new pages are occasionally added to the tariff. When a new page is added between pages already in effect, a decimal is added. For example, a new page added between pages 14 and 15 would be 14.1.
- B. Page Revision Numbers Revision numbers also appear in the upper right corner of each page. These numbers are used to determine the most current page version on file with the Commission. For example, the 4th Revised Page 14 cancels the 3rd Revised Page 14. Because of various suspension periods, deferrals, etc., the most current page number on file with the Commission is not always the tariff page in effect. Consult the Check Sheet for the page currently in effect.
- C. Paragraph Numbering Sequence There are nine levels of paragraph coding. Each level of coding is subservient to its next higher level:
  - 2.
    2.1.
    2.1.1.
    2.1.1.A.
    2.1.1.A.1.
    2.1.1.A.1.(a).
    2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.
    2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.

2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.(i).(1).

D. Check Sheets - When a tariff filing is made with the Commission, an updated Check Sheet accompanies the tariff filing. The Check Sheet lists the pages contained in the tariff, with a cross - eference to the current revision number. When new pages are added, the Check Sheet is changed to reflect the revision. All revisions made in a given filing are designated by an asterisk (\*). There will be no other symbols used on this page if these are the only changes made to it (i.e., the format, etc. remain the same, just revised revision levels on some pages). The tariff user should refer to the latest Check Sheet to find out if a particular page is the most current on file with the Commission.

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#### **SECTION 1.0 - DEFINITIONS**

Account - All local exchange access lines billed to a single location by Billed Telephone Number (BTN).

ACN - ACN Communication Services, LLC, issuer of this tariff.

Advance Payment - Part or all of a payment required before the start of service.

Authorization Code - A numerical code, one or more of which may be assigned to a Customer, to enable Carrier to identify the origin of service of the Customer so it may rate and bill the call. All authorization codes shall be the sole property of Carrier and no Customer shall have any property or other right or interest in the use of any particular authorization code. Automatic numbering identification (ANI) may be used as or in connection with the authorization code.

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

Automatic Numbering Identification (ANI) - A type of signaling provided by a local exchange telephone company which automatically identifies the local exchange line from which a call originates.

Common Carrier - An authorized company or entity providing telecommunications services to the public

Commission - Nebraska Public Service Commission.

Company - Whenever used in this tariff, "Company" refers to ACN Communication Services, LLC, unless otherwise specified or clearly indicated by the context.

Customer - The person, firm or corporation that orders service and is responsible for the payment of charges and compliance with the terms and conditions of this tariff.

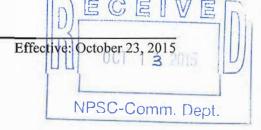
Customer Premises - A location designated by the Customer for the purposes of connecting to the Company's services.

Customer Terminal Equipment - Terminal equipment provided by the Customer.

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

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## **SECTION 1.0 - DEFINITIONS (CONT'D.)**

End Office - With respect to each NPA-NXX code prefix assigned to the Company, the location of the Company's "end office" for purposes of this tariff shall be the point of interconnection associated with that NPA-NXX code in the Local Exchange Routing Guide (ALERG@), issued by BellCore.

**Equal Access -** A form of dialed access provided by local exchange companies whereby interexchange calls dialed by the Customer are automatically routed to the Company network. Presubscribed Customers may also route interexchange calls to the Company network by dialing an access code supplied by the Company.

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.

Individual Case Basis (ICB) B A service arrangement in which the regulations, rates and charges are developed based on the specific circumstances of the Customer's situation.

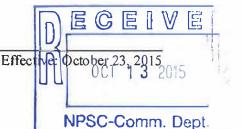
IXC or Interexchange Carrier- A long distance telecommunications services provider.

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 Carrier. Any Interruption allowance provided within this Tariff by Carrier shall not apply where service is interrupted by the negligence or willful act of the Customer, or where the Carrier, pursuant to the terms of this Tariff, 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 Tariff or by applicable law.

Joint User - A person, firm or corporation designated by the Customer as a user of local exchange service furnished to the Customer by the Company, and to whom a portion of the charges for such facilities are billed under a joint use arrangement.

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## **SECTION 1.0 - DEFINITIONS (CONT'D.)**

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. Tariff F.C.C. No. 4, or its successor tariff(s).

**LEC** - Local Exchange Company refers to the dominant, monopoly local telephone company in the area also served by the Company.

Local Calling - A completed call or telephonic communication between a calling Station and any other Station within the local service area of the Calling Station.

Monthly Recurring Charges - The monthly charges to the Customer for services, facilities and equipment, which continue for the agreed upon duration of the service.

MOU - Minutes of Use.

Non-Recurring Charge (NRC) - The initial charge, usually assessed on a one-time basis, to initiate and establish service.

PIN - Personal Identification Number. See Authorization Code.

Point of Presence (POP) - Point of Presence

**Premises** - The space occupied by a Customer or authorized user in a building or buildings or contiguous property not separated by a public right of way.

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

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## **SECTION 1.** ◆ - **DEFINITIONS (CONT'D.)**

Service - Any means of service offered herein or any combination thereof.

Service Commencement Date: The first day following the date on which the Company notifies the Customer that the requested service or facility is available for use, unless extended by the Customer's refusal to accept service which does not conform to standards set forth in the Service Order or this tariff, in which case the Service Commencement Date is the date of the Customer's acceptance. The Company and Customer may mutually agree on a substitute Service Commencement Date.

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 tariff.

Services - The Company telecommunications services offered on the Company network,

**Shared Inbound Calls** - Refers to calls that are terminated via the Customer's Company-provided local exchange line.

**Shared Outbound Calls** - Refers to calls in Feature Group (FGD) exchanges whereby the Customer's local telephone lines are presubscribed by the Company to the Company outbound service such that "1+10-digit number" calls are automatically routed to the Company or an IXC network. Calls to stations within the Customer's LATA may be placed by dialing "10XXXX" or "101XXXXX" with 1+10-digit number."

**Station** - The network control signaling unit and any other equipment provided at the Customer premises which enables the Customer to establish communications connections and to effect communications through such connections.

**Subscriber** - The person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity who orders telecommunications service from the Company. Service 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.

**Switched Access Origination/Termination** - Where access between the Customer and the interexchange carrier is provided on local exchange company Feature Group circuits and the connection to the Customer is a LEC-provided business or residential access line. The cost of switched Feature Group access is billed to the interexchange carrier.

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# SECTION 1.0 - DEFINITIONS (CONT'D.)

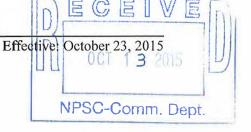
Terminal Equipment - Any telecommunications equipment other than the transmission or receiving equipment installed at a Company location.

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

User (or End User) - Any person or entity that obtains the Company's services provided under this tariff, regardless of whether such person or entity is so authorized by the Customer.

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## **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS**

# 2.1 Undertaking of the Company

#### 2.1.1 Scope

The Company undertakes to furnish communications service pursuant to the terms of this tariff in connection with one-way and/or two-way information transmission between points within the state of Nebraska.

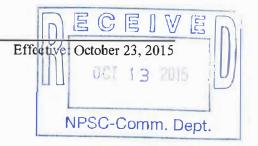
The Company is responsible under this tariff only for the services and facilities provided hereunder, and it assumes no responsibility for any service provided by any other entity that purchases access to the Company network in order to originate or terminate its own services, or to communicate with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

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## **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

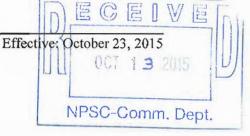
# 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

#### 2.1.3 Terms and Conditions

- A. Minimum Period Service is provided on a term basis only. The minimum term period is one (1) year unless otherwise specified in this tariff or mutually agreed upon by contract. Penalties may apply for early termination of the term agreement
- B. Except as otherwise stated in this tariff, 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. 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 tariff 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 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.
- E. Service may be terminated upon written notice to the Customer if:
  - 1. the Customer is using the service in violation of this tariff; or
  - 2. the Customer is using the service in violation of the law.
- F. This tariff shall be interpreted and governed by the laws of the state of Nebraska regardless of its choice of laws provision.

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## **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

# 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

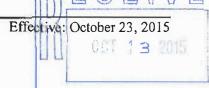
# 2.1.3 Terms and Conditions (Cont'd.)

- G. 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.
- H. 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.

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## **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

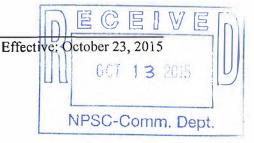
# 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

## 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 2.9.
- B. Except for the extension of allowances to the Customer for interruptions in service as set forth in Section 2.9, 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.

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## **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

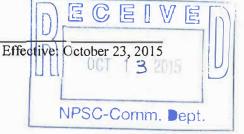
# 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

## 2.1.4 Limitations on Liability (Cont'd.)

- D. 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:
  - 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;

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## **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

## 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

## 2.1.4 Limitations on Liability (Cont'd.)

# D. (Cont'd.)

- 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 Subsection 2.1.4.
- 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 noncompletion 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.

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#### SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)

# 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

## 2.1.4 Limitations on Liability (Cont'd.)

- 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 rate sheet 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 tariff rate for each listing, or in the case of a free or no-charge directory listing, credit shall equal two times the monthly tariff rate for an additional listing, for the life of the directory or the charge period during which the error, mistake or omission occurs.

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## **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

# 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

## 2.1.4 Limitations on Liability (Cont'd.)

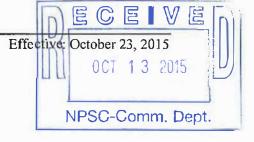
## I. With respect to Emergency Number 911 Service:

- 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, local 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.

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#### **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

## 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

#### 2.1.4 Limitations on Liability (Cont'd.)

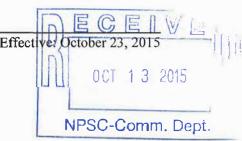
- I. With respect to Emergency Number 911 Service (Cont'd.)
  - 3. When a Customer with a nonpublished telephone number, as defined herein, places a call to the emergency 911 service, the Company will release the name and address of the calling party, where such information can be determined, to the appropriate local governmental authority responsible for emergency 911 service upon request of such governmental authority. By subscribing to service under this rate sheet, the Customer acknowledges and agrees with the release of information as described above.

# 2.1.5 Notification of Service-Affecting Activities

The Company will provide the Customer reasonable notification of service-affecting activities that may occur in normal operation of its business. Such activities may include, but are not limited to, equipment or facilities additions, removals or rearrangements 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.

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# **SECTION 2.** ■ - **REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

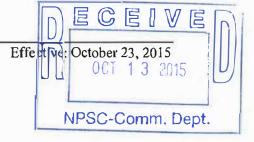
# 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

# 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 tariff. 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.

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#### **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

## 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

## 2.1.6 Provision of Equipment and Facilities (Cont'd.)

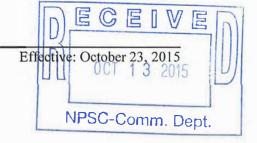
- F. The Company shall not be responsible for the installation, operation, or maintenance of any Customer-provided communications equipment. Where such equipment is connected to the facilities furnished pursuant to this tariff, the responsibility of the Company shall be limited to the furnishing of facilities offered under this tariff 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.

#### 2.1.7 Non-routine Installation

At the Customer's request, installation and/or maintenance may be performed outside the Company's regular business hours or in hazardous locations. In such cases, 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.

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#### **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

# 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

# 2.1.8 Special Construction

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

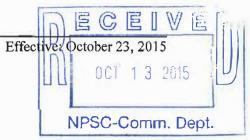
- **A.** where facilities are not presently available, and there is no other requirement for the facilities so constructed;
- B. of a type other than that which the Company would normally utilize in the furnishing of its services;
- C. over a route other than that which the Company would normally utilize 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 rate sheet remains in the Company, its partners, agents, contractors or suppliers.

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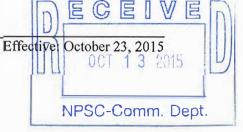
# **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

#### 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 that 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 tariff will apply.

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## **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

## 2.3 Obligations of the Customer

#### 2.3.1 General

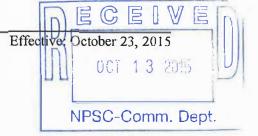
The Customer is responsible for making proper application for service; placing any necessary order, complying with tariff regulations; payment of charges for services provided. Specific Customer responsibilities include, but are not limited to the following:

- A. the payment of all applicable charges pursuant to this tariff;
- 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 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;

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#### **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

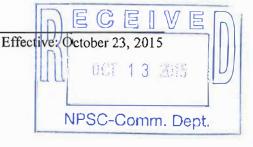
# 2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd.)

## 2.3.1 General (Cont'd.)

- 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 may be required to install and maintain Company facilities and equipment within a hazardous area if, in the Company's opinion, injury or damage to the Company's employees or property might result from installation or maintenance by the Company. 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.

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#### **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

# 2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd.)

## 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, invites, 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 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 sheet 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 rate sheet 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 rate sheet 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.

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## **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

## 2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels

#### 2.4.1 General

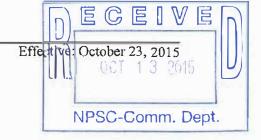
A User may transmit or receive information or signals via the facilities of the Company. The Company's services are designed primarily for the transmission of voice-grade telephonic signals, except as otherwise stated in this tariff. A User may transmit any form of signal that is compatible with the 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 tariff.

## 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.

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# **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

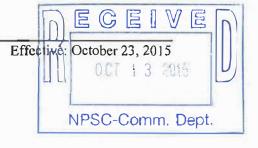
## 2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels (Cont'd.)

#### 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 tariffs of the other communications carriers that are applicable to such connections.
- C. Facilities furnished under this tariff may be connected to Customer-provided terminal equipment in accordance with the provisions of this tariff. All such terminal equipment shall be registered by the Federal Communications Commission 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 tariff only to the extent that the user is an is "End User", as defined in Section 69.2(m), Title 47, Code of Federal Regulations (1992 edition).

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# **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

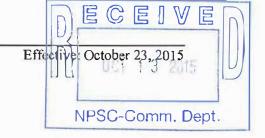
#### 2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels (Cont'd.)

#### 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 2.4.2A. 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.

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## **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

## 2.5 Payment Arrangements

## 2.5.1 Payment for Service

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

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.

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.

Customers will only be charged once, on either an interstate or intrastate basis, for any nonrecurring charges.

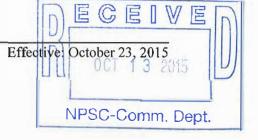
#### 2.5.2 Billing and Collection of Charges

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 thirty (30) days after the invoice date, unless otherwise agreed to in advance.
- 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 thirty (30) days after the invoice date. When billing is based on customer usage, charges will be billed monthly for the preceding billing periods.

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# SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)

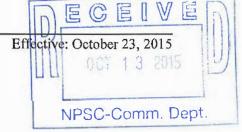
## 2.5 Payment Arrangements (Cont'd.)

## 2.5.2 Billing and Collection of Charges (Cont'd.)

- C. The Monthly Recurring Charges are billed in advance. Monthly Recurring Charges are accrued in full as of the first day of the billing cycle in which the service is furnished. Therefore, the Monthly Recurring Charges are not subject to pro-rating if service is disconnected prior to the end of a billing period.
- D. Billing of the Customer by the Company will begin on the Service Commencement Date, which is the first day following the date 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.
- E. If any portion of the payment is not received by the Company within 30 days of receipt of the bill, 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 charge of \$5.50 or 2% per month, whichever is greater, shall be due to the Company. A late payment charge is not applicable to subsequent rebilling of any amount to which a late payment charge has already been applied. Late payment charges are to be applied without discrimination. If an attorney or collection agency is required to collect any amounts due, the Customer shall pay the Company's reasonable costs.
- F. The Customer will be assessed a charge of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for each check or other payment type submitted by the Customer to the Company that a bank or other financial institution refuses to honor.
- G. If service is disconnected by the Company in accordance with Section 2.5.6 following and later restored, restoration of service will be subject to all applicable installation charges.

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## **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

## 2.5 Payment Arrangements (Cont'd.)

# 2.5.3 Disputed Bills

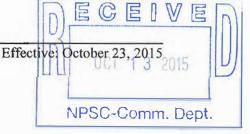
- A. In the event that a billing dispute occurs concerning any charges billed to the Customer by the Company, the Company may require the Customer to pay the undisputed portion of the bill to avoid discontinuance of service for non-payment. The Customer must submit a documented claim for the disputed amount. The Customer will submit all documentation as may reasonably be required to support the claim. All claims must be submitted to the Company within 30 days of receipt of billing for those services. If the Customer does not submit a claim as stated above, the Customer waives all rights to filing a claim thereafter.
- B. Unless disputed the invoice shall be deemed to be correct and payable in full by the Customer. If the Customer is unable to resolve any dispute with the Company, then the Customer may file a complaint with the Commission.

Nebraska Public Service Commission 300 The Atrium 1200 N Street Lincoln, NE 68509-4927 1-402-471-3101

C. If the dispute is resolved in favor of the Customer and the Customer has withheld the disputed amount, no interest, credits or penalties will apply.

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## **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

#### 2.5 Payment Arrangements (Cont'd.)

## 2.5.4 Advance Payments

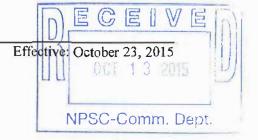
To safeguard its interests, the Company may require a Customer to make an advance payment before services and facilities are furnished and each month thereafter. The advance payment will not exceed an amount equal to the non-recurring charge(s) and one month's charges for the service or facility. In 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.

## 2.5.5 Deposits

- A. The Company may, in order to safeguard its interests, require a Customer which has a proven history of late payments to the Company or does not have established credit or fails to meet the Company's credit standards to make a deposit prior to or at any time after the provision of service to the Customer to be held by the Company as a guarantee of the payment of rates and charges. No such deposit will be required of a Customer which has established satisfactory credit and has no history of late payments to the Company.
- B. The amount of the deposit which may be required of a Customer for the purpose of establishing credit shall not exceed two (2) times the estimated average monthly bill for residential Customers and two and one-half (2 ½) times the estimated average monthly bill for non-residential Customers. The amount of deposit may be adjusted at the request of the Customer at any time when the character, purpose, or degree of the Customer's use of the service has materially changed, or when it is indicated that it will change.
- C. The making of a deposit shall not relieve any Customer of the obligation to pay current bills when due. A deposit shall only be applied to the indebtedness of the Customer for jurisdictional telecommunications services of the provider.
- D. The Company will pay interest on deposits, to accrue from the date the deposit is made until it has been refunded, or until a reasonable effort has been made to effect refund. The Company will pay interest at the rate prescribed by the Commission.

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## **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

## 2.5 Payment Arrangements (Cont'd.)

# 2.5.5 Deposits (Cont'd.)

- E. The Company shall keep a record of each deposit until the deposit is returned. The record will show the name of each Customer making a deposit; the premises occupied by the Customer when making the deposit and each successive premises occupied while the deposit is retained by the Company; the amount and date of making the deposit; and a record of each transaction, such as the payment of interest, interest credited, etc., concerning the deposit. Concurrently with receiving a deposit, the Company will provide the Customer a receipt showing the deposit date, the name and billing address of the Customer and the deposit amount.
- F. Upon discontinuance of service, or when a Customer has established credit by other means, the Company will promptly refund any deposit, plus accrued simple interest, or the balance, if any, in excess of the unpaid bills for the services furnished by the Company. A transfer of service from one location to another within the Company's serving area shall not be deemed a discontinuance with the Company if the character of the service remains unchanged.
- G. Deposits will be refunded after twelve months of timely payment, with interest as specified above.

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Treasurer/CFO
1 • 0 • Progress Place
Concord, North Carolina 28025

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NPSC-Comm. Dept

# **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

#### 2.6 Discontinuance of Service

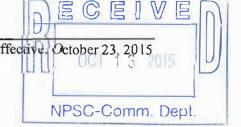
The Company may discontinue service under this section. Customers will be given five (5) days written notice prior to discontinuance unless otherwise indicated. The five day notice period excludes Sundays and legal holidays. Service will not be disconnected on any Friday, Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, or at any time when the Company's business offices are not open to the public, except where an emergency exists.

After discontinuing service, the Company 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. These remedies are 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.

The Company will refrain from suspending or terminating service for nonpayment during the pendency of a complaint before the Company or the Nebraska Public Service Commission or its authorized designee, unless otherwise provided by the Commission or its authorized designee; provided however, that as a condition of continued service during the pendency of such dispute, a customer shall pay the undisputed portions of any bill for service.

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# **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

# 2.6 Discontinuance of Service (Cont'd.)

## 2.6.1 Cancellation by Customer

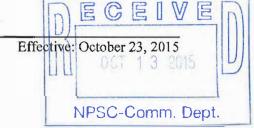
Customers may cancel service verbally or in writing. The Company shall hold the Customer responsible for payment of all charges, including fixed fees, surcharges, etc., which accrue up to the cancellation date. Customers that cancel the primary local exchange line will have the entire Account disconnected, including any secondary line and all associated features. In the event the Customer executes a term commitment agreement with the Company, the Customer must cancel service and terminate the agreement in accordance with the agreement terms.

# 2.6.2 Discontinuance by the Company

- A. Company may, by giving five (5) days written notice to the Customer, discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability for any of the following reasons:
  - 1. Failure of the Customer to pay a bill for utility service;
  - 2. Customer violation of any of the Company tariffs on file with Commission;
  - 3. Customer violation of the Commission's rules and regulations;
  - 4. Failure to meet or maintain the Company's credit and deposit requirements;
  - 5. Failure of the Customer to provide the Company reasonable access to its equipment and property;
  - 6. Customer breach of contract for service between the Company and the Customer;
  - 7. When necessary for the Company to comply with an order from any governmental agency having jurisdiction, or;
  - 8. Unauthorized resale of the equipment or services of the Company.

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# **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

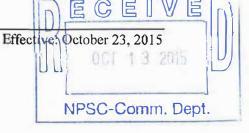
# 2.6 Discontinuance of Service (Cont'd.)

# 2.6.2 Discontinuance by the Company (Cont'd.)

- **B.** The Company may disconnect service without advance written notice for any of the following:
  - 1. The existence of an obvious hazard to the safety or health of the consumer, the general population or of the Company's personnel or facilities;
  - 2. The Company has evidence of tampering or evidence of fraud.

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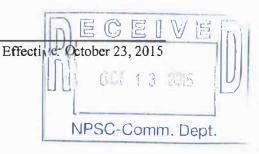
#### **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

# 2.7 Cancellation of Application for Service

- 2.7.1 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.
- 2.7.2 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).
- 2.7.3 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.
- 2.7.4 The special charges described in 2.7.1 through 2.7.3 will be calculated and applied on a case-by-case basis.

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# **SECTION 2.● - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

# 2.8 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.

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# **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

# 2.9 Allowances for Interruptions in Service

Interruptions in service that 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 2.9.1 for the part of the service that the interruption affects.

#### 2.9.1 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, e.g., the Customer is unable to transmit or receive, because of a failure of a component furnished by the Company under this rate sheet.
- 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.

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#### **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

## 2.9 Allowances for Interruptions in Service (Cont'd.)

#### 2.9.2 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 rate sheet 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 to be interrupted if a Customer continues to voluntarily make use of the 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 2.9.3, 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.

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## **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

# 2.9 Allowances for Interruptions in Service (Cont'd.)

#### 2.9.3 Use of Another Means of Communications

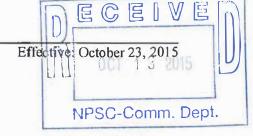
If the Customer elects to use another means of communications during the period of interruption, the Customer must pay the charges for the alternative service used.

# 2.9.4 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 thirty (30) minutes or more. Two or more interruptions of fifteen (15) minutes or more during any one 24-hour period shall be combined into one cumulative interruption.

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# **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

# 2.9 Allowances for Interruptions in Service (Cont'd.)

# 2.9.4 Application of Credits for Interruptions in Service (Cont'd.)

# D. Interruptions of 24 Hours or Less

Length of Interruption	Amount of Service To Be Credited
Less than 30 minutes	None
30 minutes up to but not including 3 hours	1/10 Day
3 hours up to but not including 6 hours	1/5 <b>Day</b>
6 hours up to but not including 9 hours	2/5 Day
9 hours up to but not including 12 hours	3/5 Day
12 hours up to but not including 15 hours	4/5 Day
15 hours up to but not including 24 hours	One Day

## E. Interruptions Over 24 Hours and Less Than 72 Hours

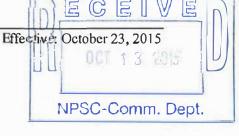
Interruptions over 24 hours and less than 72 hours will be credited 1/5 day for each 3-hour period or fraction thereof. No more than one full day's credit will be allowed for any period of 24 hours.

# F. Interruptions Over 72 Hours

Interruptions over 72 hours will be credited 2 days for each full 24-hour period. No more than thirty (30) days credit will be allowed for any one month period.

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## **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

## 2.9 Allowances for Interruptions in Service (Cont'd.)

## 2.9.5 Cancellation For Service Interruption

Cancellation or termination for service interruption is permitted only if any circuit experiences a single continuous outage of 8 hours or more or cumulative service credits equaling 16 hours in a continuous 12-month period. The right to cancel service under this provision applies only to the single circuit that has been subject to the outage or cumulative service credits.

# 2.10 Use of Customer's Service by Others

# 2.10.1 Joint Use Arrangements

Joint use arrangements will be permitted for all services provided under this tariff. 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.

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# **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

# 2.11 Cancellation of Service/Termination Liability

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 defined in Section 2.9.1 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.

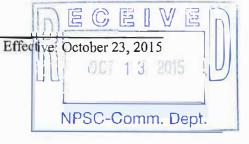
# 2.11.1 Termination Liability

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 <u>Wall Street Journal</u> 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.

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# **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

# 2.12 Cancellation by Customer

Customers may cancel service verbally or in writing. The Company shall hold the Customer responsible for payment of all charges, including fixed fees, surcharges, etc., which accrue up to the cancellation date. Customers that cancel the primary local exchange line will have the entire Account disconnected, including any secondary line and all associated features. In the event the Customer executes a term commitment agreement with the Company, the Customer must cancel service and terminate the agreement in accordance with the agreement terms.

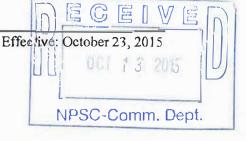
# 2.13 Transfers and Assignments

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:

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

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## **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

# 2.14 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 rate sheet.

# 2.14.1 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.

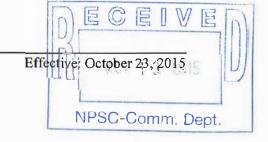
An accepted credit card is any credit card that a cardholder has requested or applied for and received, or has signed, used, or authorized another person to use to obtain credit. Any credit card issued as an renewal or substitute in accordance with this paragraph is an accepted credit card when received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

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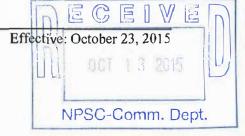
# **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

#### 2.15 Notices and Communications

- 2.15.1 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.
- 2.15.2 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.
- 2.15.3 Except as otherwise stated in this tariff, all notices or other communications required to be given pursuant to this tariff 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.
- 2.15.4 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.

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#### **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

# 2.16 Taxes, Fees and Surcharges

The Company may adjust its rates and charges or impose additional rates and charges on its Customers in order to recover amounts it is required by governmental or quasi-governmental authorities to collect from or pay to others in support of statutory or regulatory programs. Examples of such programs include, but are not limited to, the Universal Service Fund (USF), the Presubscribed Interexchange Carrier Charge (PICC), compensation to pay telephone service providers, E911 Assessments and Relay Services. Fees or surcharges for such programs will be included in this section of the Tariff.

# 2.16.1 Nebraska Universal Service Fund Surcharge

All Customers will be assessed a surcharge to support the Nebraska Universal Service ("NUSF") program. The NUSF Surcharge will be based on a percentage of the Customer's total billing including any non-recurring, recurring, usage and per call charges. This surcharge will appear as a separate line item on the Customer's bill. The percentage applied to the Customer's billing will be equal to the assessment percentage paid by the Company as determined by Nebraska law or Commission rules, and may vary from time to time as required by Nebraska law or Commission rules.

# 2.16.2 911 Service Surcharge

All Customers will be assessed a per line surcharge to support local 911 Service Programs. The 911 Surcharge will be based on a monthly snapshot of lines associated with each Customer's account. No fractional debits or credits will be given. This surcharge will appear as a separate line item on the Customer's bill. The amount of the surcharge will be equal to the per line assessment paid by the Company as determined by local jurisdictional assessments rounded up to the nearest whole cent, and may vary from time to time as required by Nebraska law, Commission rules or local jurisdiction requirements.

#### 2.16.3 Dual Party Relay Service Surcharge

All Customers will be assessed a per line surcharge to support the Nebraska Dual Party Relay Service program. The surcharge will be based on a monthly snapshot of lines associated with each Customer's account. No fractional debits or credits will be given. This surcharge will appear as a separate line item on the Customer's bill.

Effective July 1, 2010:

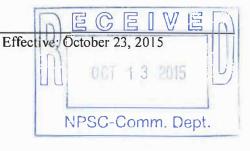
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Rate Per Line, per Month: \$0.05 (first 100 access lines)

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# **SECTION 2.0 - REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)**

#### 2.17 Miscellaneous Provisions

# 2.17.1 Telephone Number Changes

Whenever any Customer's telephone number is changed after a directory is published, the Company shall intercept all calls to the former number for at least one hundred and twenty (120) days and give the calling party the new number provided existing central office equipment will permit, and the Customer so desires.

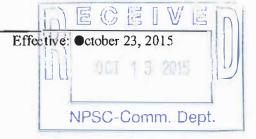
When service in an existing location is continued for a new Customer, the existing telephone number may be retained by the new Customer only if the former Customer consents in writing, and if all charges against the account are paid or assumed by the new Customer.

# 2.17.2 Maintenance and Operations Records

Records of various tests and inspections, to include non-routine corrective maintenance actions or monthly traffic analysis summaries for network administration, necessary for the purposes of the Company or to fulfill the requirements of Commission rules shall be kept on file in the office of the Company as required under Commission rules.

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# **SECTION 3.0 - SERVICE AREAS**

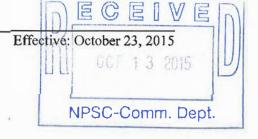
# 3.1 Exchange Service Areas

Local exchange services are provided, subject to availability of facilities and equipment, in areas currently served by the following incumbent LECs:

1) Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC

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#### SECTION 4.0 - SERVICE CHARGES AND SURCHARGES

# 4.1 Service Order and Change Charges

Non-recurring charges apply to processing Service Orders for new service and for changes in service.

<u>Line Connection Charge (1)</u>: Applies to requests for initial connection or establishment of telephone service with the Company.

<u>Moves:</u> Applies to Customer request for a move or change in the physical location of the access line.

Transfer of Service: Applies to Customer request for a change in the service location.

<u>Telephone Number Change:</u> Applies to Customer request for a change of the Customer telephone number.

<u>Service Order Changes/Adds:</u> Applies to Customer requests for changes in service or additional to services, including the additional of calling features.

#### **4.1.3** Rates

	Residence	<u>Business</u>
Line Connection Charge		
Weekdays	\$50.00	N/A
Weekends, Holidays:	\$75.00	N/A
Moves, per line		
Weekdays	\$50.00	N/A
Weekends, Holidays:	\$75.00	N/A
Service Call Charge:	\$70.00	N/A
Transfer of Service, per order	\$6.00	N/A
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Telephone Number Change	\$6.00	N/A
Service Order Changes/Adds	\$6.00	N/A
Add Features	\$5.00	N/A

<sup>(1)</sup> The Line Connection Charge will not be applied if a Customer retains its existing telephone number(s) when switching local service to ACN.

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# SECTION 4.0 - SERVICE CHARGES AND SURCHARGES (CONT'D.)

# 4.2 Temporary Suspension/Restoration of Service

Upon the request of the customer, service may be temporarily suspended. Suspension of service may begin or terminate on any day of the month provided notice is given sufficiently in advance for arrangements to be made. Service will be disconnected to the extent necessary to assure than no inward or outward service will be available during the period of suspension.

	Residence	<b>Business</b>
Nonrecurring Charge All Service Levels, per line:	\$12.00	N/A
Monthly Recurring Charge		
Advantage Home - Standard & Value Options VI	\$14.99	N/A
Advantage Plus – Standard & Value Options VI	\$19.19	N/A
Advantage Unlimited VI	\$25.19	N/A
Data/Fax Line	\$11.67	N/A

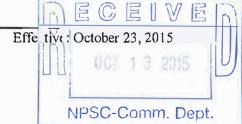
# 4.3 Restoral Charge

A restoration charge applies to the restoration of suspended service and facilities 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 disconnection of service, service is later re-installed.

Per occasion, per line: Residence Business N/A

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#### SECTION 4.0 - SERVICE CHARGES AND SURCHARGES (CONT'D.)

# 4.4 Public Telephone Surcharge

In order to recover the Company's expenses to comply with the FCC's pay telephone compensation plan effective on October 7, 1997 (FCC 97-371), an undiscountable per call charge is applicable to all intrastate calls that originate from any pay telephone, not presubscribed to the Company, used to access Company provided services. This surcharge, which is in addition to standard tariffed usage charges and any applicable service charges and surcharges associated with service, applies for the use of the instrument used to access Company provided service and is unrelated to the service accessed from the pay telephone.

Pay telephones include coin-operated and coinless phones owned by local telephone companies, independent companies and interexchange carriers. The Public Pay Telephone Surcharge applies to the initial completed call and any reoriginated call (e.g., using the "#" symbol). The Public Pay Telephone Surcharge does not apply to calls placed from pay telephones at which the Customer pays for service by inserting coins during the progress of the call.

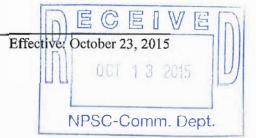
Whenever possible, the Public Pay Telephone Surcharge will appear on the same invoice containing the usage charges for the surcharged call. In cases where proper pay telephone coding digits are not transmitted to the Company prior to completion of a call, the Public Pay Telephone Surcharge may be billed on a subsequent invoice after the Company has obtained information from a carrier that the originating station is an eligible pay telephone.

Rate Per Call:

\$0.24

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#### SECTION 4.0 - SERVICE CHARGES AND SURCHARGES (CONT'D.)

## 4.5 Carrier Presubscription

#### 4.5.1 General

Carrier Presubscription is a procedure whereby a Customer designates to the Company the carrier which the Customer wishes to be the carrier of choice for intraLATA and interLATA toll calls. Such calls are automatically directed to the designated carrier, without the need to use carrier access codes or additional dialing to direct the call to the designated carrier. Presubscription does not prevent a Customer who has presubscribed to an IntraLATA or InterLATA toll carrier from using carrier access codes or additional dialing to direct calls to an alternative long distance carrier on a per call basis.

# 4.5.2 Presubscription Options

Customers may select the same carrier or separate carriers for intraLATA and interLATA long distance. The following options for long distance Presubscription are available:

Option A: Customer selects the Company as the presubscribed carrier for IntraLATA and InterLATA toll calls subject to presubscription.

Option B: Customer may select the Company as the presubscribed carrier for IntraLATA calls subject to presubscription and some other carrier as the presubscribed carrier for interLATA toll calls subject to presubscription.

Option C: Customer may select a carrier other than the Company for intraLATA toll calls subject to presubscription and the Company for interLATA toll calls subject to presubscription.

Option D: Customer may select the carrier other than the Company for both intraLATA and interLATA toll calls subject to presubscription

Option E: Customer may select two different carriers, neither being the Company for intraLATA and interLATA toll calls. One carrier to be the Customer's primary intraLATA interexchange carrier. The other carrier to be the Customer's primary interLATA interexchange carrier.

Option F: Customer may select a carrier other than the Company or no presubscribed carrier for intraLATA toll calls subject to presubscription which will require the Customer to dial a carrier access code to route all intraLATA toll calls to the carrier of choice for each call.

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# SECTION 4.0 - SERVICE CHARGES AND SURCHARGES (CONT'D.)

# 4.5 Carrier Presubscription (Cont'd.)

# 4.5.3 Rules and Regulations

Customers of record will retain their primary interexchange carrier(s) until they request that their dialing arrangements be changed.

Customers of record or new Customers may select either Options A, B, C, D, E or F for intraLATA Presubscription.

Customers may change their selected Option and/or presubscribed toll carrier at any time subject to charges specified in 4.5.5 below:

# 4.5.4 Presubscription Procedures

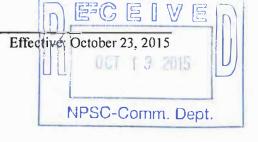
A new Customer will be asked to select intraLATA and interLATA toll carriers at the time the Customer places an order to establish local exchange service with the Company. The Company will process the Customer's order for service. All new Customers' initial requests for intraLATA toll service presubscription shall be provided free of charge.

If a new Customer is unable to make selection at the time the new Customer places an order to establish local exchange service, the Company will read a random listing of all available intraLATA and interLATA carriers to aid the Customer in selection. If selection is still not possible, the Company will inform the Customer that he/she will be given 90 calendar days in which to inform the Company of his/her choice for primary toll carrier(s) free of charge. Until the Customer informs the Company of his/her choice of primary toll carrier, the Customer will not have access to long distance services on a presubscribed basis, but rather will be required to dial a carrier access code to route all toll calls to the carrier(s) of choice. Customers who inform the Company of a choice for toll carrier presubscription within the 90 day period will not be assessed a service charge for the initial Customer request.

Customers of record may initiate an intraLATA or interLATA presubscription change at any time, subject to the charges specified in 4.5.5 below. If a Customer of record inquires of the Company of the carriers available for toll presubscription, the Company will read a random listing of all available intraLATA carriers to aid the Customer in selection.

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## SECTION 4.0 - SERVICE CHARGES AND SURCHARGES (CONT'D.)

# 4.5 Carrier Presubscription (Cont'd.)

# 4.5.5 Presubscription Charges

# A. Application of Charges

After a Customer's initial selection for a presubscribed toll carrier and as detailed in above, for any change thereafter, Presubscription Change Charge, as set for the below will apply. Customers who request a change in intraLATA and interLATA carriers with the same order will be assessed a single charge per line.

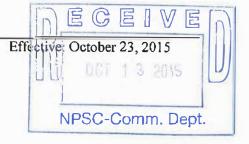
# B. Nonrecurring Charges

Per business or residence line, trunk, or port:

\$5.00

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#### **SECTION 5 - LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES**

All Services listed in this Section are grandfathered and available to existing Customers at existing locations only. Moves, adds or changes are not available for existing services and services are not available for new installations.

# **(C)**

# (C)

#### 5.1 Residential Bundled Services

#### 5.1.1 General

ACN offers several service packages targeted at Residential Customers which bundle local and long distance services. Residential Bundled Services may include several Calling Features (See Section 6.1 for Calling Feature descriptions). These packages are targeted primarily at residential customers and differ based on Customer call volume, patterns and features desired. Voice Mail \* may be available with some packages at an additional charge.

Recurring charges are billed monthly in advance. Non-recurring charges for installation or rearrangement of service are billed on the next month's bill immediately following work performed by the Company.

Each local exchange access line for a specific service is billed at the same Monthly Recurring Charge. Customers may opt for a data or fax line at a reduced rate. Data/fax lines are only available to Customers of an ACN voice local exchange service and are purchased as an additional line to the voice local exchange service. Data/fax lines do not include a call allowance or calling features. In addition, toll free service is available as part of the Company's Bundled Services.

The local exchange access line is a voice-only line for use by residential customers. If it is determined that usage is not consistent with residential voice applications, the Customer's service may be assessed a \$50.00 monthly recurring data usage charge or be disconnected.

Any unlimited long distance calling plan is strictly for typical residential applications and is subject to the following restrictions: no more than ten lines per location may have such a plan; no unlimited plan shall be used in connection with auto-dialers, internet dialing, fax blasting, telemarketing, call centers, party lines, or similar activities. Incidental calling for dial-up internet access, data, and fax applications is permitted up to a maximum of 2,500 minutes within any 30-day period. Usage beyond this threshold is presumed to be inconsistent with typical residential voice applications and is strictly prohibited. If the Company determines that the usage is inconsistent with the usage restrictions described herein, the Company may take immediate action to enforce the restrictions, including, but not limited to service suspension, re-billing at the Company's standard long distance rates, and transition to a message-rate long distance service at the Company's standard rates.

\* Voice Mail is not regulated by the Commission.

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# **SECTION 5 - LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES (CONT'D.)**

# 5.1 Residential Bundled Services (Cont'd.)

# 5.1.1 General (Cont'd.)

Customers subscribing to the Company's Bundled Services must choose ACN as the local, intraLATA and interLATA primary carrier. Customers who later choose a carrier other than ACN for intraLATA or interLATA calling will remain on this service until the Company is notified that this service is no longer the service of choice for the Customer.

All local exchange access lines block 900/976 calling.

Travel Card Service is available to Customers upon request. Travel card calling is not included in any call allowances.

Discontinuance of service for non-payment or partial payment of bundled service charges will be in accordance with Section 2.6.2.A of this tariff.

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#### SECTION 5 - LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES (CONT'D.)

# 5.1 Residential Bundled Services (Cont'd.)

#### 5.1.2 ACN Advantage Home - Standard and Value Options VI

ACN Advantage Home - Standard and Value Options VI is a bundled local and toll service which provides residential Customers with unlimited local calling for a flat monthly recurring charge, specified calling features at no additional charge, and access to two (2) intrastate and interstate toll service plan options.

#### A. Service Features

## Voice lines include:

- 1. Local line and unlimited local calling
- 2. Calling Features: Caller ID with Name, Call Waiting, Call Waiting ID, Anonymous Call Rejection. Additional features are available on a monthly subscription basis.

# Voice Line Toll Program Options:

ACN Advantage Home - Standard

This toll program provides for intraLATA and interLATA toll calling based on usage per minute. Calls are billed and rounded to the nearest full minute increment. A Monthly Recurring Charge (MRC) is billed in addition to usage.

2. ACN Advantage Home - Value

This toll program provides for intraLATA and interLATA toll calling based on usage per minute. Calls are billed and rounded to the nearest full minute increment. A Monthly Recurring Charge (MRC) is billed in addition to usage.

## Data/Fax lines include:

1. Unlimited local calling.

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# **SECTION 5 - LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES (CONT'D.)**

#### 5.1 Residential Bundled Services (Cont'd.)

# ACN Advantage Home - Standard and Value Options VI (Cont'd.)

#### В. **Non-Recurring Charges**

Service connection charges may apply - see Section 4.1 of this tariff. The Service Connection fee is waived for those Customers who retain their existing telephone number when switching their service to ACN.

#### C. Monthly and Usage Rates

Local Service, per month		
Local Exchange Access Line:	\$33.99	(I)
Data/Fax Line:	\$24.45	(I)
Toll Service		

Advantage	Home -	Standard

Monthly Recurring Charge:	\$0.99
IntraLATA, per minute:	\$0.15
InterLATA, per minute:	\$0.15
Advantage Home - Value	
Monthly Recurring Charge:	\$4.99
IntraLATA, per minute:	\$0.05
InterLATA, per minute:	\$0.05
Data/Fax Line Toll Service	
IntraLATA, per minute:	\$0.05
InterLATA, per minute:	\$0.05

$T_{\alpha}$	.11	Free

IntraLATA, per minute:	\$0.10
InterLATA, per minute:	\$0.10

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#### SECTION 5 - LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES (CONT'D.)

## 5.1 Residential Bundled Services (Cont'd.)

# 5.1.3 ACN Advantage Plus - Standard and Value Options VI

ACN Advantage Plus - Standard and Value Options VI is a bundled local and toll service which provides residential Customers with unlimited local calling for a flat monthly recurring charge, specified calling features at no additional charge, and access to two intrastate and interstate toll service plan options.

#### A. Service Features

## Voice lines include:

- 1. Local line and unlimited local calling
- Custom Calling Features: Caller ID with Name, Three Way Calling, Call Waiting, Call Waiting ID, Anonymous Call Rejection, Call Forward, Auto Redial, Automatic Call Back, Speed Calling 8, Priority Call, Distinctive Ring 1.

#### Voice Line Toll Program Options:

ACN Advantage Plus - Standard

This toll program provides for intraLATA and interLATA toll calling based on usage per minute. Calls are billed and rounded to the nearest full minute increment. A Monthly Recurring Charge (MRC) is billed in addition to usage.

2. ACN Advantage Plus - Value

This toll program provides for intraLATA and interLATA toll calling based on usage per minute. Calls are billed and rounded to the nearest full minute increment. A Monthly Recurring Charge (MRC) is billed in addition to usage.

# Data/Fax lines include:

1. Unlimited local calling.

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## **SECTION 5 - LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES (CONT'D.)**

# 5.1 Residential Bundled Services (Cont'd.)

# 5.1.3 ACN Advantage Plus - Standard and Value Options VI

# B. Non-Recurring Charges

Service connection charges may apply; see Section 4.1 of this tariff. The Service Connection fee is waived for those Customers who retain their existing telephone number when switching their service to ACN.

# C. Monthly and Usage Rates

Local Service, per month Local Exchange Access Line: Data/Fax Line:	\$40.99 \$24.45	
Toll Service		
Advantage Plus - Standard		
Monthly Recurring Charge:	\$0.99	
IntraLATA, per minute:	\$0.15	
InterLATA, per minute:	\$0.15	

Advantage Plus - Valu	ie
Monthly Recurring	α

Monthly Recurring Charge: \$4.99 IntraLATA, per minute: \$0.05 InterLATA, per minute: \$0.05

# Data/Fax Line Toll Service

IntraLATA, per minute: \$0.05 InterLATA, per minute: \$0.05

## Toll Free

IntraLATA, per minute: \$0.10 InterLATA, per minute: \$0.10

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# SECTION 5 - LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES (CONT'D.)

# 5.1 Residential Bundled Services (Cont'd.)

## 5.1.4 ACN Advantage Unlimited VI

ACN Advantage Unlimited VI provides Customers with a local exchange voice line with unlimited local calling, selected calling features at no additional charge, and unlimited intrastate/interstate toll calling. An optional data/fax line is available as an additional line and includes unlimited local calling.

#### A. Service Features

ACN Advantage Unlimited VI includes the following features:

- 1. Local exchange voice line and unlimited local calling
- 2. Custom Calling Features: Caller ID with Name, Call Waiting, Call Waiting ID, Three Way Calling, Anonymous Call Rejection, Call Forward, Auto Redial, Automatic Call Back, Speed Calling 8, Priority Call, Distinctive Ring 1.
- 3. Unlimited direct dial outbound intraLATA, interLATA and interstate calling to the United States and Canada. Toll free calling and calls made via Company Calling Card are not included.
- 4. Optional Data/Fax lines include local exchange line with unlimited local calling.

#### B. Non-Recurring Charges

Service connection charges may apply; see Section 4.1 of this tariff. The Service Connection fee waived for those customers who retain their existing telephone number when switching their service to ACN.

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## LOCAL EXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS TARIFF

# **SECTION 5 - LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES (CONT'D.)**

# 5.1 Residential Bundled Services (Cont'd.)

# 5.1.4 ACN Advantage Unlimited VI (Cont'd.)

# C. Monthly and Usage Rates

Monthly Recurring Charge

ACN Advantage Unlimited VI Access Line: \$50.99 (I)
Data/Fax Line: \$24.45 (I)

Toll Free

IntraLATA, per minute: \$0.10 InterLATA, per minute: \$0.10

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# **SECTION 5 - LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES (CONT'D.)**

# 5.2 Residential Stand-Alone Local Exchange Service

Residential Stand-Alone Local Exchange Service provides the Customer with a single, voice local exchange line. Local exchange service lines and trunks are provided on a single party (individual) basis only. No multi-party lines are provided. An optional data/fax line is available as an additional line, and includes unlimited local calling.

Residential Stand-Alone Service includes 1000 minutes of local exchange calling. Calls above the 1000 minute call allowance are billed on a per minute basis.

# A. Monthly Recurring Charges and Usage Rates

Stand-Alone Local Exchange Service

Monthly Recurring Charge \$27.99 (I)

Per Minute Rate, above 1000 minutes: \$0.01

Optional Data/Fax Line

Monthly Recurring Charge \$15.08

See Company's Nebraska Tariff No. 1 for intrastate toll rates.

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#### SECTION 6 - SUPPLEMENTARY SERVICES

# 6.1 Optional Calling Features

The features in this section are made available to ACN Customers either as Stand-Alone offerings for a monthly or per use fee or are included with the service subscribed to by the Customer. All features are provided subject to availability. Features may not be available with all classes of service. Transmission levels may not be sufficient in all cases.

# 6.1.1 Feature Descriptions

Anonymous Call Rejection - Gives the Customer the ability to prevent future calls from specific telephone numbers and can be activated after receipt of an unwanted call or after entering a telephone number from which the calling party does not wish to receive future calls. The screening list holds a maximum of fifteen (15) numbers.

<u>Auto Call Back</u> - Allows a Customer to return the most recent incoming call and hear an announcement of the last telephone number that called.

<u>Auto Redial</u> - Automatically redials a busy number for up to 30 minutes until line is available.

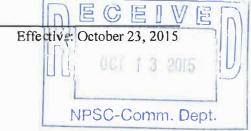
<u>Call Forwarding - Allows</u> incoming calls forwarded to be forwarded to another line specified by the Customer by dialing a code and the telephone number to which the calls will be forwarded.

<u>Call Trace</u> - Allows a called party to initiate an automatic trace of the last call received. Call Trace is available on a usage basis only.

Call Waiting / Call Waiting with Caller ID – Allows the Customer engaged in a call to receive a tone signal indicating a second call is waiting, and by operation of the switchook to place the first call on hold and answer the waiting call. Call Waiting with Caller ID provides Call Waiting service with the display of Caller ID information for the call that is waiting.

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#### SECTION 6 - SUPPLEMENTARY SERVICES

# 6.1 Optional Calling Features (Cont'd.)

## 6.1.1 Feature Descriptions (Cont'd.)

<u>Caller ID-Number Only</u> – Provides for the display of the calling party telephone number on Caller ID compatible Customer premises equipment.

<u>Caller ID Name and Number</u>— Provides for the display of the calling party name and telephone number on Caller ID compatible Customer premises equipment.

<u>Custom Ringing</u> - Allows a Customer to have up to two separate telephone numbers (one main and one additional number) associated with one local exchange access line. Each telephone numbers has a distinctive ring on incoming calls for identification purposes.

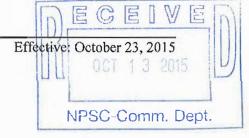
<u>Priority Call</u> - Allows a Customer to assign a maximum of fifteen (15) callers' telephone numbers to a special list. The customer will hear a distinctive ring at his location when calls are received from callers' telephone numbers on that list.

<u>Speed Calling 8— Allows</u> the Customer to dial an abbreviated code to originate a call to any of 8 programmed telephone numbers.

Three-Way Calling – Allows the Customer to add a third party to an existing conversation.

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#### **SECTION 6 – SUPPLEMENTARY SERVICES**

# 6.1 Optional Calling Features (Cont'd.)

#### **6.1.2** Rates

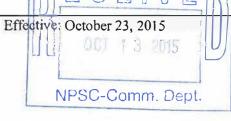
# A. Features Offered on a Monthly Basis

The following optional calling features are offered to Customers on a monthly basis. Customers are allowed unlimited use of each feature. No usage sensitive charges apply. Multiline Customers must order the appropriate number of features based on the number of lines that will have access to the feature.

	Monthly Recurring Charge	
Feature	Residence	Business
Anonymous Call Rejection	\$0.00	N/A
Auto Call Back (*69)	\$2.95	N/A
Auto Redial	\$2.50	N/A
Call Forwarding	\$3.00	N/A
Call Waiting/ Call Waiting with Caller ID	\$2.00	N/A
Caller ID Name and Number	\$5.00	N/A
Distinctive Ringing	\$4.00	N/A
Priority Call	\$4.00	N/A
Speed Calling 8	\$1.00	N/A
Three Way Calling	\$3.00	N/A

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#### **SECTION 6 - SUPPLEMENTARY SERVICES**

# 6.1 Optional Calling Features (Cont'd.)

## 6.1.2 Rates (Cont'd.)

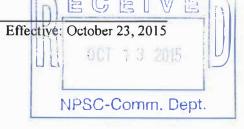
# B. Features Offered on a Usage Sensitive Basis

The following features are available to all local exchange Business and Residence line Customers where facilities and services permit. Customers may utilize each feature by dialing the appropriate access code. The Customer will be billed the Per Feature Activation Charge shown in the following table each time a feature is used by the Customer.

Feature	Charge Per Use
Busy Redial	\$1.00
Return Call	\$1.00
Three Way Calling	\$1.00
Call Trace	\$3.50

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### SECTION 6 - SUPPLEMENTARY SERVICES AND RATES (CONT'D.)

## 6.2 Directory Assistance Services

A Customer may obtain assistance, for a charge, in determining a telephone number by dialing Directory Assistance Service. A Customer can also receive assistance by writing the Company with a list of names and addresses for which telephone numbers are desired.

## 6.2.1 Local Directory Assistance

The rates specified following apply when Customers request company assistance in determining telephone numbers of Customers who are located in the same local service area or who are not located in the same local service area but who are located within the same NPA.

Charges will not apply for calls placed from hospital services or calls placed from telephones where the Customer or, in the case of residence service, a member of the Customer's household, has been affirmed in writing as unable to use a Company provided directory because of a visual, physical or reading handicap.

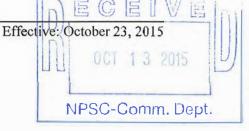
### A. Basic Directory Assistance

Local Directory Assistance

Per query \$1.99

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### SECTION 6 - SUPPLEMENTARY SERVICES AND RATES (CONT'D.)

## 6.2 Directory Assistance Services, (Cont'd.)

### 6.2.2 Directory Assistance Call Completion

Directory Assistance Call Completion (DACC) is a service that provides Customers the option of having their local or intraLATA calls automatically completed when they request a telephone listing from the Directory Assistance operator. The call may be completed automatically or by the Directory Assistance operator.

The DACC portion of the call may either be billed in the same manner as the DA portion or alternately billed by using a calling card, billing to a third number, or collect. All operator-handled charges, as specified in Section 6.3 of this tariff, apply as appropriate.

Call completion is provided without additional charge for calls within the LATA. However, intraLATA long distance or local message charges apply if applicable.

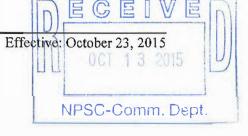
### A. Directory Assistance Call Completion

Per completed call:

\$0.00

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### SECTION 6 - SUPPLEMENTARY SERVICES AND RATES (CONT'D.)

## 6.2 Directory Assistance Services, (Cont'd.)

### 6.2.3 National Directory Assistance Service

National Directory Assistance Service is provided to Customers of the Company for the purpose of requesting telephone numbers of individuals or businesses who are located outside the Customer's local Directory Assistance service area.

There are no call allowances or exemptions for National Directory Assistance.

A maximum of two(2) requested telephone numbers are allowed per call.

This service may be alternately billed by using a calling card, billing to a third number, or collect. Operator-handled charges, as specified in Section 6.3 of this tariff, apply as appropriate.

### A. National Directory Assistance

Direct dialed

\$1.25

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### SECTION 6 - SUPPLEMENTARY SERVICES AND RATES (CONT'D.)

## 6.3 Operator Services

The Company's operator services, available to presubscribed Customers, are accessible on a twenty-four (24) hour per day seven (7) days per week basis. In addition to the per call service charge, usage rates apply. The types of calls handled are as follows:

<u>Customer Dialed Calling/Credit Card Call</u> - This charge applies in addition to usage charges for station to station calls billed to an authorized Calling Card or Commercial Credit Card. The Customer must dial the destination telephone number where the capability exists for the Customer to do so. A separate rate applies in the event operator assistance is requested for entering the Customer's card number for billing purposes.

Operator Dialed Calling/Credit Card Call - This charge applies in addition to usage charges for station to station calls billed to an authorized telephone Calling Card or Commercial Credit Card and the operator dials the destination telephone number at the request of the Customer.

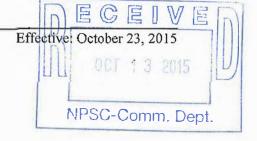
<u>Person-to-Person</u> - This charge applies in addition to usage charges for calls placed with the assistance of a Company operator to a particular party at the destination number. This charge applies regardless of billing method, including but not limited to billing to a Calling Card, Commercial Credit Card, Collect, by deposit of coins in Pay Telephones, or to a Third Party. Charges do not apply unless the specified party or an acceptable substitute is available.

<u>Third Party Billed:</u> Provides the Customer with the capability to charge a local call to a third number which is different from the called or calling party. The party answering at the third number has the option to refuse acceptance of the charges in advance or when queried by the operator.

<u>Collect Calls:</u> Provides the Customer with the capability to charge a call to the called party. On the operator announcement of a collect call, the called party has the option to refuse acceptance of charges in advance or when queried by the operator.

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# SECTION 6 - SUPPLEMENTARY SERVICES AND RATES (CONT'D.)

# 6.3 Operator Services, (Cont'd.)

## 6.3.1 Usage Charges:

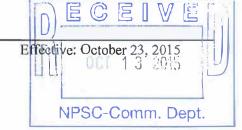
Usage charges for local operator assisted calls are those usage charges that would normally apply to the calling party's service. In addition to usage charges, an operator assistance charge applies to each call.

## 6.3.2 Per Call Service Charges

	Partial Partial	<u>Fully</u>
	Assisted	<u>Assisted</u>
Station to Station 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party Billed or Collect:	\$3.75	\$5.50
Person-to-Person 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party Billed or Collect:	\$8.24	\$9.99

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### SECTION 6 - SUPPLEMENTARY SERVICES AND RATES (CONT'D.)

### 6.4 Busy Line Verification and Emergency Interrupt Service

Upon request of a calling party the Company will verify a busy condition on a designated local service line. The operator will determine if the line is clear or in use and report to the calling party. At the request of the Customer, the operator will interrupt the call on the busy line. Emergency Interruption is only permitted in cases where the calling party indicates an emergency exists, requests interruption and the call has already been verified as busy.

No charge will apply when the calling party advises that the call is to or from an official public emergency agency. Busy Verification and Interrupt Service is furnished where and to the extent that facilities permit.

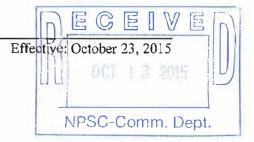
The Customer shall identify and save the Company harmless against all claims that may arise from either party to the interrupted call or any person.

#### 6.4.1 Rates

Busy Line Verification, per request: \$3.75 Busy Line Interrupt, per request: \$3.75

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#### SECTION 6 – SUPPLEMENTARY SERVICES AND RATES (CONT'D.)

## 6.5 Directory Listing Service

#### 6.5.1 General

The following rates and regulations apply to standard listings in light face type in the white pages (alphabetical section) of the telephone directory and to the Directory Assistance records of the Company.

Directory listings are limited to such information as is essential to the identification of the listed party. The listing of a service, commodity, or trade name is not permitted unless it is the name, or an integral part of the name, under which the Customer does business.

A listing is limited to one line in the directory, except where in the judgment of the Company, more than one line is required to identify the Customer properly. In such cases, the additional lines required are provided at no extra charge.

Listing services are available with all classes of main telephone exchange service.

## 6.5.2 Listings

#### A. Primary Listing

One listing, termed the primary listing, is included with each exchange access line or each joint user service.

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### SECTION 6 - SUPPLEMENTARY SERVICES AND RATES (CONT'D.)

### 6.5 Directory Listing Service, (Cont'd.)

## 6.5.2 Listings, (Cont'd.)

#### B. Additional Listings

Additional listings may be the listings of individual names of those entitle to use the customer's service or, for business, Departments, Divisions, Tradenames, etc.

In connection with business and residence service, regular additional listings are available only in the names of Authorized Users of the Customer's service.

Ordinarily, all additional listings are of the same address and telephone number as the primary listings, except as provided for joint user and alternate number listings. However, when it appears necessary as an aid to the use of the directory and provided satisfactory service can be furnished, a listing will be permitted under the address of a branch exchange, Centrex or extension of an exchange service line installed on the premises of the Customer, but at an address different from that of the attendant position of main service.

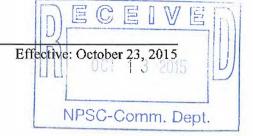
Business additional listings are not permitted in connection with residence service. Residence additional listings are also permitted in connection with business service which is located in a residence and for permanent or season guests residing in a hotel or club.

A residence dual name additional listing is comprised of a surname, two first names, address and telephone number. A residence dual name additional listing may be provided for two persons who share the same surname and reside at the same address, or for a person known by two first names.

Special types of additional listings, such as Alternate, Alpha and Informational, Duplicate and Reference Listings, Foreign Listings, etc. take the same business or residence classification as the service with which such listings are furnished.

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### SECTION 6 - SUPPLEMENTARY SERVICES AND RATES (CONT'D.)

### 6.5 Directory Listing Service, (Cont'd.)

### 6.5.2 Listings, (Cont'd.)

### C. Nonpublished Service

The telephone numbers of nonpublished service are not listed in either the Company's alphabetical directory or Directory Assistance records available to the general public.

Non published information may be released to emergency service providers, to customers who subscribe to Company offerings which require the information to provide service and/or bill their clients, or, to telephone customers who are billed for calls placed to or from nonpublished numbers and to entities which collect for the billed services. Nonpublished names and/or telephone numbers may also be delivered to customers on a call-by-call basis.

Incoming calls to nonpublished service will be completed by the Company only when the calling party places the call by number. The Company will adhere to this practice not withstanding any claim the calling party may present, except claims of emergencies involving life and death. In such cases, the Company will call the nonpublished number and request permission to make an immediate connection to the calling party.

When the Company agrees to keep a number unlisted, it does so without any obligation. Except for cases of gross negligence or willful misconduct, the Company is not liable for any damages that might arise from publishing a non-published number in the directory or disclosing it to some. If, in error, the telephone number is published in the directory, the Company's only obligation is to credit or refund any monthly charges the Customer paid for non-published service.

The Subscriber indemnifies (i.e., promises to reimburse the Company for any amount the Company must pay as a result of) and save the Company harmless against any and all claims for damages caused or claimed to have been caused, directly or indirectly, by the publication of a non-published service or the disclosing of said number to any person.

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### SECTION 6 - SUPPLEMENTARY SERVICES AND RATES (CONT'D.)

# 6.5 Directory Listing Service, (Cont'd.)

## 6.5.2 Listings, (Cont'd.)

#### D. Nonlisted Service

Non-listed service means that the Customer's telephone number is not listed in the directory, but does it appear in the Company's Directory Assistance Records.

This service is subject to the rules and regulations for E911 service, where applicable.

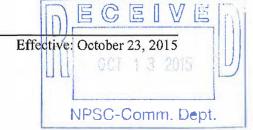
The Company will only complete calls to a nonlisted number, if requested by a caller, during the course of a directory assistance call completion service.

When the Company agrees to keep a number unlisted, it does so without any obligation. Except for cases of gross negligence or willful misconduct, the Company is not liable for any damages that might arise from publishing a non-listed number in the directory or disclosing it to some. If, in error, the telephone number is listed in the directory, the Company's only obligation is to credit or refund any monthly charges the Customer paid for nonlisted service.

The subscriber indemnifies (i.e., promises to reimburse the Company for any amount the Company must pay as a result of) and save the Company harmless against any and all claims for damages caused or claimed to have been caused, directly or indirectly, by the publication of a non-listed service or the disclosing of said number to any person.

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# SECTION 6 - SUPPLEMENTARY SERVICES AND RATES (CONT'D.)

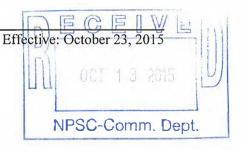
# 6.5 Directory Listing Service, (Cont'd.)

# 6.5.3 Monthly Rates

	Monthly Rate	
	Residence	Business
Additional Listings	\$3.00	N/A
Nonpublished Service	\$4.00	N/A
Nonlisted Service	\$3.00	N/A

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### LOCAL EXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS TARIFF

#### - SECTION 7 - LONG DISTANCE SERVICES

All Services referenced in this Section are grandfathered and available to existing Customers at existing locations only. Moves, adds or changes are not available for existing services and services are not available for new installations.

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### 7.1 General

Rates and regulations for the Company's Long Distance Services may be found in the Company's Nebraska Tariff No. 4.

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## **SECTION 8 - ACCESS SERVICES**

## 8.1 General

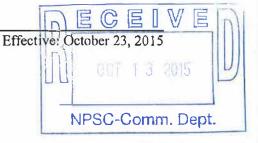
Rates and regulations for the Company's Access Services may be found in the Company's Nebraska Tariff No. 6.

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#### **SECTION 9 - SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS**

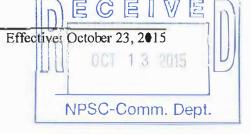
## 9.1 Individual Case Basis (ICB) Arrangements

Arrangements will be developed on a case-by-case basis in response to a bona fide special request from a Customer or prospective Customer to develop a competitive bid for a service not generally offered under this tariff. Rates quoted in response to such competitive requests may be different than those specified for such services in this tariff. ICB rates will be offered to the Customer in writing and on a nondiscriminatory basis.

ICB will be filed with the Communications Division of the Commission.

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#### **SECTION 10 - PROMOTIONAL OFFERINGS**

## 10.1 Special Promotions

The Company may, from time to time, offer services in this Tariff at special promotional rates and/or terms. Such promotional arrangements shall be filed with the Commission when so required. All rates and terms contained in this Tariff shall continue to apply unless specifically addressed in the promotional agreements.

#### 10.2 Referral Credit

Beginning October 29, 2007, current residential ACN Customers who have been active Customers for 90 days are eligible for a credit for referring a new Customer who purchases any ACN service. Current ACN Customers will receive a \$20 credit for each new Customer referral where the new Customer purchases ACN local exchange service or \$10 where the new Customer referral who purchases ACN long distance service. The referral credit will apply to the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) invoice after the new consumer signs up for ACN service.

The referred consumer will receive a one-time fifty percent (50%) discount off the tariff price of the service purchased. The credit will apply to the consumer's third (3<sup>rd</sup>) invoice and will not apply to taxes, surcharges, regulatory fees or nonrecurring fees. New Customers will only be eligible to one 50% credit under this offer. If the new Customer disconnects service before the credit is applied, the new Customer will not be eligible to receive the credit.

### 10.3 ACN Wireless Promotion

Beginning October 29, 2007, Current ACN customers in good standing will receive a credit if they purchase wireless service through ACN. Customers of ACN local exchange service will receive a one time \$25 credit and Customers of ACN long distance service will receive a one time \$10 credit. The credit will be applied to the Customer's bill statement after thirty(30) days as a good standing wireless customer. ACN provides wireless service to its customers as an agent and is not currently a reseller or facilities-based provider of wireless service.

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