Nebraska Public Service Commission

INTEREXCHANGE SERVICES TARIFF

FEB 2 2 2022

This tariff, Clear Rate Communications, LLC's Nebraska Tariff No. 5 replaces Clear Rate Communications, Inc.'s Nebraska Tariff No. 1 (Interexchange Services) currently on file with the Commission in its entirety.

NEBRASKA

INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS

TARIFF OF

CLEAR RATE COMMUNICATIONS, LLC

This tariff contains the descriptions, regulations, and rates applicable to the furnishing of service for interexchange telecommunication services within the state of Nebraska by Clear Rate Communications, LLC (Clear Rate). This tariff is on file with the Nebraska Public Service Commission and copies may be inspected during normal business hours.

> Clear Rate Communications, LLC 2600 W. Big Beaver Rd. Suite 450 Troy, Michigan 48084

Legal and Regulatory Director: 248-556-9522

Issued: February 22, 2022 Effective Date: December 7, 2021

Issued By: Legal and Regulatory Director

2600 W. Big Beaver Rd., Suite 450

CHECK SHEET

Pages contained within all Sections inclusive of this tariff are effective as of the dates shown. Original and revised pages, as named below, comprise all changes from the original tariff in effect on the date indicated. Pages designated by an * are included in this filing.

PAGE	REVISION		PAGE	REVISION		PAGE	REVISION
Title	Original	*	26	Original	*	TAGE	REVISION
1	Original	*	27	Original	*		
2	Original	*	28	Original	*		
3	Original	*	29	Original	*		
4	Original	*	30	Original	*		
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EXPLANATION OF NOTES

(C)	Indicates Changed Regulation
(D)	Indicates Discontinued Rate or Regulation
(I)	Indicates Rate Increase
(M)	Indicates Move in Location of Text
(N)	Indicates New Rate or Regulation
(R)	Indicates Rate Reduction
(T)	Indicates Change of Text Only

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TARIFF FORMAT

- A. Sheet Numbering Sheet numbers appear in the right corner of the page. Sheets are numbered sequentially. However, new sheets are occasionally added to the tariff. When a new sheet is added between sheets already in effect, a decimal is added. For example, a new sheet added between sheets 13 and 14 would be 13.1.
- B. Sheet Revision Numbers Sheet revision numbers also appear in the upper right corner of each sheet. These numbers are used to determine the most current sheet version on file with the Commission. Consult the check sheet for the sheet 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

2.1.1A.1 2.1.1.A.1.(a)

2.1.1.A.1.(a).I

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

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

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SECTION 1 - APPLICATION OF TARIFF

1.1 APPLICATION OF TARIFF

This Tariff sets forth the regulations and rates applicable to services provided by Clear Rate Communications, LLC as follows:

The furnishing of intrastate communications services, including local exchange and long-distance service, by virtue of one-way and/or two-way information transmission between points within the State of Nebraska.

1.1.1 Service Territory

Clear Rate Communications, LLC will provide service in the areas currently served by the ILEC and intrastate toll service throughout the State of Nebraska.

1.1.2 Availability

Service is available where facilities permit.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.1 USE OF FACILITIES AND SERVICE

2.1.1 Obligation of the Company

In furnishing facilities and service, the Company does not undertake to transmit messages, but furnishes the use of its facilities to its customers for communications.

The Company's obligation to furnish facilities and service is dependent upon its ability (a) to secure and retain, without unreasonable expense, suitable facilities and rights for the construction and maintenance of the necessary circuits and equipment; (b) to secure and retain, without unreasonable expense, suitable space for its plant and facilities in the building where service is or will be provided to the customer; or (c) to secure reimbursement of all costs where the owner or operator of a building demands relocation or rearrangement of plant and facilities used in providing service therein.

The Company shall not be required to furnish, or continue to furnish, facilities or service where the circumstances are such that the proposed use of the facilities or service would tend to adversely affect the Company's plant, property or service.

The Company reserves the right to refuse an application for service made by a present or former customer who is indebted to the Company for service previously rendered pursuant to this Tariff until the indebtedness is satisfied.

2.1.2 Limitations on Liability

- A. Except where the Commission, for good cause shown, determines otherwise, the Customer and any authorized or joint users, jointly and severally, shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Company and the Company shall not be liable for any claims, loss, damage or expenses (including attorneys' fees and court costs) involving:
 - 1. Any act or omission of: (a) the Customer; (b) any other entity furnishing service, equipment or facilities for use in conjunction with the Service or facilities provided by the Company; or (c) common carriers, warehousemen or middlemen;

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D)

2.1 USE OF FACILITIES AND SERVICE (CONT'D)

2.1.2 Limitations on Liability (Cont'd.)

A. (Cont'd.)

- 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, storms, or other natural catastrophes; pole hits; explosions; national emergencies, insurrections, riots, warms 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, including rights-of-way and materials; and any law, order, regulation, direct, request, or other action of any governing authority or agency thereof;
- 3. Any unlawful or unauthorized use of the Company's facilities and Service or the use of the Company's facilities and/or Service in violation of this tariff;
- 4. Libel, slander, invasion of privacy or infringement of patents, trade secrets, or copyrights arising from or in connection with the transmission of communications or information by means of Company-provided facilities or Service, or by means of the combination of Company-provided facilities or Service with Customer-provided facilities or services:
- 5. Any infringement, breach or 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, other employees or agents of any one of them;

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D)

2.1 USE OF FACILITIES AND SERVICE (CONT'D)

2.1.2 Limitations on Liability (Cont'd.)

A. (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 this Section 2.1:
- 7. Defacement of or damage to Customer premises resulting from the furnishing of Service 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 intentional, wrongful act of a Company employee when such act is not within the scope of the employee's responsibilities for the Company and/or is not authorized by the Company;
- 10. Any representations made by Company employees that do not comport, or that are inconsistent, with the provisions of this tariff;
- 11. Any act, omission or network condition resulting in the non-availability of 911, E911, or similar services for any reason including, without limitation and by way of example only, due to any failure of Service functionality or interruption of electric service to Customer's premises;

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D)

- 2.1 USE OF FACILITIES AND SERVICE (CONT'D)
 - 2.1.2 Limitations on Liability (Cont'd.)
 - A. (Cont'd.)
 - 12. Any non-completion of calls due to network busy conditions or network failures;
 - 13. Any calls not actually attempted to be completed during any period that Service is unavailable;
 - 14. Blockages by other providers of services on the public switched network; And
 - 15. Breach in the privacy or security of communications transmitted over the Company's facilities.
 - B. The Company shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by the Customer or End User from and against any and all claims, loss, demands, suits, expense, or other action or any liability whatsoever, including attorney fees, whether suffered, made, insinuated, or asserted by the Customer or by any other party, for any personal injury to or death of any person or persons, and for any loss, damage or destruction of any property, including environmental contamination, whether owned by the Customer or by any other party, caused or claimed to have been caused directly or indirectly by the installation, operation, failure to operate, maintenance, presence, condition, location, use, or removal of any Company or Customer-provided equipment or facilities or Service provided by the Company.
 - C. The Company does not guarantee nor make any warranty with respect to Service installations at locations at which there is present an atmosphere that is explosive, prone to fire, dangerous or otherwise unsuitable for such installations.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D)

2.1 USE OF FACILITIES AND SERVICE (CONT'D)

2.1.2 Limitations on Liability (Cont'd.)

- D. The Company assumes no responsibility for the availability or performance of any systems or related facilities under the control of other entities, whether or not affiliated with the Company, or for other facilities provided by other entities used for Service to the Customer, even if the Company has acted as the Customer's agent in arranging for such facilities or services. Such facilities are provided subject to such degree of protection or non-preemptibility as may be provided by the other entities.
- E. Except as otherwise state in this tariff, any claim of whatever nature against the Company shall be deemed conclusively to have been waived unless presented in writing to the Company within thirty (30) days after the date of the occurrence that gave rise to the claim.
- 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. The Company will not be liable for any charge incurred when any long distance (toll call) carrier or alternative operator service provider accepts third number billed or collect calls.
- H. When the facilities of other companies are used in establishing a connection, the Company is not liable for any act, error, omission, or interruption caused by the other Company or their agents or employees. This includes the provision of a signaling system database by another Company.
- I. THE INCLUDED EXCULPATORY LANGUAGE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A DETERMINATION BY THE COMMISSION THAT A LIMITATION OF LIABILITY IMPOSED BY THE COMPANY SHOULD BE UPHELD IN A COURT OF LAW. ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING BY THE COMMISSION RECOGNIZES THAT IT IS A COURT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO ADJUDICATE NEGLIGENCE AND CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGE CLAIMS. IT IS ALSO THE COURT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO DETERMINE THE VALIDITY OF THE EXCULPATORY CLAUSE.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D)

2.2 LIABILITY OF THE COMPANY

2.2.1 General

- A. Except as otherwise states in this tariff, liability of the Company for damages arising out of either (1) the furnishing of its Service, 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.
- B. Except for the extension of allowances to the Customer for interruptions in Service, 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, error, degradation or failure to provide any Service, including the partial or complete inability to access emergency 911 services during any such failure, 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.

2.2.2 Use of Service

Any service provided under this Tariff may be resold to or shared (jointly used) with other persons at the customer's option. The customer remains solely responsible for all use of service ordered by it or billed to its telephone number(s) pursuant to this Tariff, for determining who is authorized to use its service, and for promptly notifying the Company of any unauthorized use. The customer may advise its customers that a portion of its service is provided by the Company, but the customer shall not represent that the Company jointly participates with the customer in the provision of the service.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D)

2.2 LIABILITY OF THE COMPANY (CONT'D)

2.2.3 Use and Ownership of Equipment

The Company's equipment, apparatus, channels and lines shall be carefully used. Equipment furnished by the Company shall remain its property and shall be returned to the Company whenever requested, within a reasonable period following the request, in good condition, reasonable wear and tear accepted. The customer is required to reimburse the Company for any loss of, or damage to, the facilities or equipment on the customer's premises, including loss or damage caused by agents, employees or independent contractors of the customer through any negligence.

2.2.4 RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D)

2.3 MINIMUM PERIOD OF SERVICE

The minimum period of service is one month except as otherwise provided in this tariff. The customer must pay the regular tariffed rate for the service they subscribe to for the minimum period of service. If a customer disconnects service before the end of the minimum service period, that customer is responsible for paying the regular rates for the remainder of the minimum service period. When the service is moved within the same building, to another building on the same premises, or to a different premise entirely, the period of service at each location is accumulated to calculate if the customer has met the minimum period of service obligation.

If service is terminated before the end of the minimum period of service as a result of condemnation of property, damage to property requiring the premises to be abandoned, or by the death of the customer, the customer is not obligated to pay for service for the remainder of the minimum period.

If service is switched over to a new customer at the same premises after the first month's service, the minimum period of service requirements are assigned to the new customer if the new customer agrees in writing to accept them. For facilities not taken over by the new customer, the original customer is responsible for the remaining payment for the minimum service period in accordance with the terms under which the service was originally furnished.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D)

2.4 FLEXIBLE PRICING

2.4.1 General

Flexible Pricing sets minimum and maximum rates that can be charged for telephone service. The Company may change a specific rate within the range of the established minimum and maximum rates on one day's notice to customers and the Public Service Commission.

2.4.2 Conditions

- A. The Company reserves the right to change prices at any time subject to regulatory requirements by filing a revised Rate Attachment with the Commission.
- B. Individual written notice to Customers of rate changes shall be made in accordance with Commission regulations. Where there are no regulations, notification will be made in a manner appropriate to the circumstances involved.
- C. A rate shall not be changed unless it has been in effect for at least thirty (30) days.
- D. A customer can request that the Company disconnect service that is provided under the Flexible Pricing due to a price increase. The customer will be credited for the difference between the new price and the old price retroactive to the effective date of the price increase if the customer notifies the Company of its desire to disconnect service within 20 days of receiving notification of the price increase.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D)

2.5 PAYMENT FOR SERVICE RENDERED

2.5.1 Responsibility for All Charges

Any applicant for facilities or service may be required to sign an application form requesting the Company to furnish the facilities or service in accordance with the rates, charges, rules and regulations from time to time in force and effect. The customer is responsible for all local and toll calls originating from the customer's premises and for all calls charged to the customer's line where any person answering the customer's line agrees to accept such charge.

2.5.2 Advance Payments

- A. At the time an application for service is made, an applicant may be required to pay an amount equal to at least one month's service and/or installation charges which may be applicable, in addition to such special construction and installation charges as are to be borne by the applicant. The amount of the advance payment is credited to the customer's account on the first bill rendered.
- B. Federal, State or Municipal governmental agencies may not be required to make advance payments.

2.5.3 Credit Policy

A. Deposit and Guarantee Requirements

The Company may require a deposit or guarantee of payment from any customer or applicant who has not established good credit with that Company. Deposit or guarantee of payment requirements as prescribed by the Company must be based upon standards which bear a reasonable relationship to the assurance of payment. The Company may determine whether a customer has established good credit with that Company, except as herein restricted:

1. A customer, who within the last 12 months has not had service disconnected for nonpayment of a bill and has not been liable for disconnection of service for nonpayment of a bill, and the bill is not in dispute, shall be deemed to have established good credit.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D)

2.5 PAYMENT FOR SERVICE RENDERED (CONT'D)

2.5.3 Credit Policy (Cont'd.)

- A. Deposit and Guarantee Requirements (Cont'd.)
 - 2. The Company shall not require a deposit or a guarantee of payment based upon income, home ownership, residential location, employment tenure, nature of occupation, race, color, creed, sex, marital status, age, national origin, or any other criteria which does not bear a reasonable relationship to the assurance of payment or which is not authorized by this chapter.
 - 3. The Company shall not use any credit reports other than those reflecting the purchase of Company services to determine the adequacy of a customer's credit history without the permission in writing of the customer. Any credit history so used shall be bailed to the customer in order to provide the customer an opportunity to review the data. Refusal of a customer to permit use of a credit rating or credit service other than that of a utility shall not affect the determination by the Company as to that customer's credit history.
 - 4. When required, a customer may assure payment by submitting a deposit. A deposit shall not exceed an estimated two months' gross bill or existing two months' bill where applicable. All deposits shall be in addition to payment of an outstanding bill or a part of such bill as has been resolved to the satisfaction of the Company, except where such bill has been discharged in bankruptcy. The Company shall not require a deposit or a guarantee of payment without explaining in writing why that deposit or guarantee is being required and under what conditions, if any, the deposit will be diminished upon return. The deposit shall be refunded to the customer after 12 consecutive months of prompt payment of all bills to that Company. The Company may, at its option, refund the deposit by direct payment or as a credit on the bill. With notice any deposit of a customer shall be applied by the Company to a bill when the bill has been determined by the Company to be delinquent. The Company shall issue a written receipt of deposit to each customer from whom a deposit is received and shall provide a means whereby a depositor may establish a claim if the receipt is unavailable.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D)

2.5 PAYMENT FOR SERVICE RENDERED (CONT'D)

2.5.3 Credit Policy (Cont'd.)

A. Deposit and Guarantee Requirements (Cont'd.)

4. (Cont'd.)

Interest shall be paid on deposits in excess of \$20 at the rate set by Nebraska Statutes. Interest on deposits shall be payable from the date of deposit to the date of refund or disconnection. The Company may, at its option, pay the interest at intervals it chooses but at least annually, by direct payment, or as a credit on bills.

Upon termination of service, the deposit with accrued interest shall be credited to the final bill and the balance shall be returned within 45 days to the customer.

B. Guarantee of Payment

The Company may accept, in lieu of deposit, a contract signed by a guarantor satisfactory to the Company whereby payment of a specified sum, not exceeding the deposit requirement, is guaranteed. The term of such contract shall be for no longer than 12 months but shall automatically terminate after the customer has closed and paid the account with the Company, or at the guarantor's request upon 60 days' written notice to the Company. Upon termination of a guarantee contract or whenever the Company deems same insufficient as to amount or surety, a cash deposit or a new or additional guarantee may be required for good cause upon reasonable written notice to the customer.

The service of any customer who fails to comply with these requirements may be disconnected upon notice as prescribed in Nebraska rules. The Company shall mail the guarantor copies of all disconnect notices sent to the customer whose account he has guaranteed unless the guarantor waives such notice in writing.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D)

2.5 PAYMENT FOR SERVICE RENDERED (CONT'D)

2.5.4 Payment of Charges

Charges for facilities and service, other than usage charges, are due monthly in advance. All other charges are payable upon request of the Company. Bills are due on the due date shown on the bill and are payable at any business office of the Company, by U.S. Mail, or at any location designated by the Company. If objection is not received by the Company within three months after the bill is rendered, the items and charges appearing thereon shall be determined to be correct and binding upon the customer. A bill will not be deemed correct and binding upon the customer if the Company has records on the basis of which an objection may be considered, or if the customer has in his or her possession such utility records. If objection results in a refund to the customer, such refund will be with interest at the greater of the unadjusted customer deposit rate or the applicable late payment rate, if any, for the service classification under which the customer was billed. Interest will be paid from the date when the customer overpayment was made, adjusted for any changes in the deposit rate or late payment rate, compounded monthly, until the overpayment is refunded. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no interest will be paid by the Company on customer overpayments that are refunded within 30 days after the overpayment is received by the Company.

Where an objection to the bill involves a superseded service order, the items and charges appearing on the bill shall be deemed to be correct and binding upon the customer if objection is not received by the Company within two months after the bill is rendered.

2.5.5 Return Check Charge

When a check which has been presented to the Company by a customer in payment for charges is returned by the bank, the customer shall be responsible for the payment of a Returned Check Charge of \$25.00.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D)

2.5 PAYMENT FOR SERVICE RENDERED (CONT'D)

2.5.6 Late Payment Charges

- A. Customer bills for telephone service are due on the due date specified on the bill. A customer is in default unless payment is made on or before the due date specified on the bill. If payment is not received by the customer's next billing date, a late payment charge of 1.5% will be applied to all amounts previously billed under this Tariff, excluding one month's local service charge, but including arrears and unpaid late payment charges.
- B. Late payment charges do not apply to those portions (and only those portions) of unpaid balances that are associated with disputed amounts. Undisputed amounts on the same bill are subject to late payment charges if unpaid and carried forward to the next bill.
- C. Late payment charges do not apply to final accounts.

2.5.7 Customer Overpayments

The Company will provide interest on customer overpayments that are not refunded within 30 days of the date the Company receives the overpayment. An overpayment is considered to have occurred when payment in excess of the correct charges for service is made because of erroneous Company billing. The customer will be issued reimbursement for the overpayment, plus interest, or, if agreed to by the customer, credit for the amount will be provided on the next regular Company bill. The rate of interest shall be the greater of the customer deposit interest rate or the Company's applicable Late Payment Charge.

Interest shall be paid from the date when overpayment was made, adjusted for any changes in the deposit rate or late payment rate, and compounded monthly, until the date when the overpayment is refunded. The date when overpayment is considered to have been made will be the date on which the customer's overpayment was originally recorded to the customer's account by the Company.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D)

2.6 ACCESS TO CUSTOMER'S PREMISES

The customer shall be responsible for making arrangements or obtaining permission for safe and reasonable access for Company employees or agents of the Company to enter the premises of the customer or any joint user or customer of the customer at any reasonable hour for the purpose of inspecting, repairing, testing or removing any part of the Company's facilities.

2.7 CUSTOMER COMPLAINTS, BILLING DISPUTES & INQUIRIES

2.7.1 Contact Information

Customers may register any inquiry or complaint at:

Customer Service Department Clear Rate Communications, LLC 2600 W. Big Beaver Rd. Suite 450 Troy, Michigan 48084

Toll Free: (877) 877-4799 Fax: (877) 877-5225

Email: support@clearrate.com Web: www.clearrate.com

2.8 DISCONNECTION OF SERVICE

2.8.1 Disconnection without Notice

- A. The Company may discontinue service to a customer without notice under the following conditions:
 - 1. in the event of tampering with the Company's equipment;
 - 2. in the event of a condition determined to be hazardous to the customer, to other customers of the Company, to the Company's equipment, the public, or to employees of the Company; or
 - 3. in the event of a customer's use of equipment in such a manner as to adversely affect the Company's equipment or the Company's service to others.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D)

2.8 DISCONNECTION OF SERVICE (CONT'D)

2.8.2 Disconnection with Notice

- A. The Company may discontinue service to a customer under the following conditions after giving customer five (5) days' (excluding Sundays and legal holidays) notice:
 - 1. for failure of the customer to pay a bill for service when due;
 - 2. for failure of the customer to meet the Company's deposit and credit requirements;
 - 3. for failure of the customer to make proper application for service;
 - 4. for customer's violation of any of the Company's rules on file with the Commission;
 - 5. for failure of the customer to provide the Company reasonable access to its equipment and property;
 - 6. for customer's breach of the contract for service between the Company and the customer;
 - 7. for failure of the customer to furnish such service, equipment, and/or rights-of-way necessary to serve said customer as shall have been specified by the Company as a condition of obtaining service; or
 - 8. when necessary for the Company to comply with any order or request of any governmental authority having jurisdiction.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D)

2.8 DISCONNECTION OF SERVICE (CONT'D)

2.8.3 General Restriction on Disconnection

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.

2.8.4 Abandonment or Unauthorized Use of Facilities

- A. If it is determined that facilities have been abandoned, or are being used by unauthorized persons, or that the customer has failed to take reasonable steps to prevent unauthorized use, the Company may terminate telephone service.
- B. In the event that telephone service is terminated for abandonment of facilities or unauthorized use and service is subsequently restored to the same customer at the same location:
 - 1. No charge shall apply for the period during which service had been terminated, and
 - 2. Reconnection charges will apply when service is restored. However, no charge shall be made for reconnection if the service was terminated due to an error on the part of the Company.

2.8.5 Change in the Company's Ability to Secure Access

Any change in the Company's ability (a) to secure and retain suitable facilities and rights for the construction and maintenance of the necessary circuits and equipment or (b) to secure and retain suitable space for its plant and facilities in the building where service is provided to the customer may require termination of a customer's service until such time as new arrangements can be made. No charges will be assessed the customer while service is terminated, and no connection charges will apply when the service is restored.

2.8.6 Emergency Termination of Service

The Company will immediately terminate the service of any customer, on request, when the customer has reasonable belief that the service is being used by an unauthorized person or persons. The Company may require that the request be submitted in writing as a follow-up to a request made by telephone.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D)

2.9 ALLOWANCES FOR INTERRUPTIONS IN SERVICE

Interruptions in service, which are not due to the negligence of, or non-compliance 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 below for the part of the service that the interruption affects. A credit allowance will be made when an interruption occurs because of a failure of any component furnished by the Company under this Tariff.

2.9.1 Credit for Interruptions

- A. An interruption period begins when the Customer reports a service, facility, or circuit to be interrupted and releases it for testing and repair. An interruption period ends when the service, facility, or circuit is operative. If the Customer reports a service, facility, or circuit to be inoperative but declines to release it for testing and repair, it is considered to be impaired, but not interrupted.
- B. For calculating credit allowances, every month is considered to have 30 days. 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.
- C. In the event a customer's service is interrupted otherwise than by negligence or willful act of the customer and it remains out of order for 24 hours after being reported to the Company, adjustments shall be made to the customer, based upon the pro rata part of the month's charge for the period of days and that portion of the service and facilities rendered useless or inoperative. The refund may be accomplished by a credit on a subsequent bill for telephone service. If in the case of such interruption, service is restored on or before the day after it is reported or found by the Company, no allowance will be made.

D. Credit to Customer

Credits attributable to any billing period for interruptions of service shall not exceed the total charges for that period for the service and facilities furnished by the Company rendered useless or substantially impaired.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D)

2.9 ALLOWANCES FOR INTERRUPTIONS IN SERVICE (CONT'D)

2.9.1 Credit for Interruptions (Cont'd.)

E. "Interruption" Defined

For the purpose of applying this provision, the word "interruption" shall mean the inability to complete calls either incoming or outgoing or both due to equipment malfunction or human errors. "Interruption" does not include, and no allowance shall be given for service difficulties such as slow dial tone, circuits busy or other network and/or switching capacity shortages. Nor shall the interruption allowance apply where service is interrupted by the negligence or willful act of the subscriber or where the Company, pursuant to the terms of the Tariff, suspends or terminates service because of nonpayment of bills due to the Company, unlawful or improper use of the facilities or service, or any other reason covered by the Tariff. No allowance shall be made for interruptions due to electric power failure where, by the provisions of this Tariff, the subscriber is responsible for providing electric power. Allowance for interruptions of message rate service will not affect the subscriber's local call allowance during a given billing period.

2.9.2 Limitations on Credit Allowances

No credit allowance will be made for:

- A. interruptions due to the negligence of, or non-compliance with the provisions of this Tariff, by any party other than the Company, including but not limited to the customer, authorized user, or other common carriers connected to, or providing service connected to, the service of the Company or to the Company's facilities;
- B. interruptions due to the failure or malfunction of non-Company equipment, including service connected to customer provided electric power;
- C. interruptions of service during any period in which the Company is not given full and free access to its facilities and equipment for the purpose of investigating and correcting interruptions;
- D. interruptions of service during any period when the customer has released service to the Company for maintenance purposes or for implementation of a customer order for a change in service arrangements;
- E. interruptions of service due to circumstances or causes beyond the control of the Company.

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SECTION 3 – SERVICE AREA

3.1 SERVICE AREA

Services are provided, subject to availability of facilities and equipment, within the Service area set forth in the Service Area Map attached hereto as Exhibit A.

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SECTION 4 – SERVICE CHARGES AND SURCHARGES

4.1 CARRIER PRESUBSCRIPTION

Customers and Incidental Users will be charged applicable Non-Recurring Charges, monthly Recurring Charges and/or usage charges for Services, Facilities and equipment on an Individual Case Base.

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SECTION 5 – INDIVIDUAL CASE BASIS

5.1 INDIVIDUAL CASE BASIS (ICB) ARRANGEMENTS

ICB rates will be offered to the Customer in writing and on a nondiscriminatory basis.

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SECTION 6 - EXPLANATION OF TERMS

APARTMENTS

A building or group of buildings used primarily to provide complete residential apartments but not lodging on a day-to-day basis.

AUTHORIZED USER

A person, corporation or other entity who is authorized by the Company's customer to utilize service provided by the Company to the customer. The customer is responsible for all charges incurred by an Authorized User

AUTOMATIC NUMBER IDENTIFICATION ("ANI")

A system whereby the calling party's telephone number is identified and sent forward with the call record for routing and billing purposes. E911 Service makes use of this system.

BUILDING

A structure enclosed within exterior walls or fire walls, built, erected and framed of component structural parts and designed for permanent occupancy.

CALL INITIATION

The point in time when the exchange network facility are initially allocated for the establishment of a specific call.

CALL TERMINATION

The point in time when the exchange network facility allocated to a specific call is released for reuse by the network.

CALLING NUMBER DELIVERY

Enables the customer to receive the 10-digit telephone number of the calling person, as well as the date and time of the incoming calls.

CENTRAL OFFICE

An operating office of the Company where connections are made between telephone exchange lines.

COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS

Channels and other facilities which are capable of two-way communications between subscriber -provided terminal equipment or Telephone utility stations, even when not connected to exchange and message toll communications service.

COMPANY

Clear Rate Communications, LLC, unless otherwise clearly indicated from the context.

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SECTION 6 - EXPLANATION OF TERMS (CONT'D)

COMMISSION

The Nebraska Public Service Commission.

CUSTOMER

The person, firm, corporation, or other entity which orders service pursuant to this Tariff and utilizes service provided under Tariff by the Company. A customer is responsible for the payment of charges and for compliance with all terms of the Company's Tariff.

CUSTOMER PREMISES EQUIPMENT (CPE)

Equipment provided by the customer for use with the Company's services. CPE can include a station set, facsimile machine, key system, PBX, or other communication system.

ERROR

A discrepancy or unintentional deviation by the Company from what is correct or true. An "error" can also be an omission in records.

FINAL ACCOUNT

A customer whose service has been disconnected who has outstanding charges still owed to the Company.

HANDICAPPED PERSON

A person who is legally blind, visually handicapped or physically handicapped, under the following definitions from the Federal Register (Vol. 35 #126 dated June 30, 1970).

INTERRUPTION

The inability to complete calls, either incoming or outgoing or both, due to Company facilities malfunction or human errors.

JOINT USER

A person, firm, or corporation which uses the telephone service of a subscriber as provided in Section 1 of the Tariff.

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SECTION 6 - EXPLANATION OF TERMS (CONT'D)

LATA

Local Access and Transport Area. The area within which the Company provides local and long distance ("intraLATA") service. For call to numbers outside this area ("interLATA") service is provided by long distance companies.

LOCAL SERVICE

Telephone exchange service within a local calling area.

MOVE

The disconnection of existing equipment at one location and reconnection of the same equipment at a new location in the same building or in a different building on the same premises.

PORT

A connection to the switching network with one or more voice grade communications channels, each with a unique network address (telephone number) dedicated to the customer. A port connects a link to the public switched network.

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.

RATE CENTER

A geographic reference point with specific coordinates on a map used for determining mileage when calculating charges.

RESALE OF SERVICE

The subscription to communications service and facilities by one entity and the reoffering of communications service to others (with or without 'adding value') for profit.

SERVING CENTRAL OFFICE

The central office from which local service is furnished.

SUSPENSION

Suspension of service for nonpayment is interruption of outgoing service only. Suspension of service at the subscriber's request is interruption of both incoming and outgoing service.

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SECTION 6 - EXPLANATION OF TERMS (CONT'D)

TELEPHONE CALL

A voice connection between two or more telephone stations through the public switched exchange system.

TERMINATION OF SERVICE

Discontinuance of both incoming and outgoing service.

TOLL CALL

Any call extending beyond the local exchange of the originating caller which is rated on a toll schedule by the Company.

USER

A customer, joint user, or any other person authorized by a customer to use service provided under this Tariff.

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