

Block Line Systems, LLC  
Issued by: John E. Martin, President  
1645 West Chester Pike  
West Chester, PA 19382

TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 1  
Original Title Page

ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: November 13, 2014

**Transmittal No. 1**

Effective: November 14, 2014

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Regulations, Rates and Charges  
applying to the provision of Access Service  
for connection to Interstate communications  
facilities for Interstate Customers within  
the operating territory of

**BLOCK LINE SYSTEMS, LLC**

Access Services are provided by means of wire, fiber optics, radio, or any other suitable technology or combination thereof.

Services provided to Customers of Block Line Systems, LLC, (hereinafter Company,) include, but are not limited to Common Line, Switched & Special Access, Optional Features & Functions and other Miscellaneous Access Services associated with the provision of Access Services.

Unless otherwise indicated, for purpose of this tariff, the reference to "state" shall mean either the States of Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania, based on the state within which the Company's facilities are being used to provide the service.

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ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: July 14, 2017

Transmittal No. 5

Effective: July 29, 2017

**CHECK SHEET**

Title Page and Pages 1 to 76 inclusive of this tariff are effective as of the date shown. Original and revised pages as named below contain all changes from the original tariff that are in effect on the date hereof.

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Title	Original		26	Original		51	Original	
1	4 <sup>th</sup> Rev.	*	27	Original		52	Original	
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21	Original		47	Original		72	1 <sup>st</sup> Rev.	
22	Original		48	1 <sup>st</sup> Rev.		73	Original	
23	Original		49	1 <sup>st</sup> Rev.		74	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rev.	*
24	Original		50	Original		75	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rev.	*
25	Original							

\* - indicates those pages included with this filing

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**CONCURRING CARRIERS**

NO CONCURRING CARRIERS

**CONNECTING CARRIERS**

NO CONNECTING CARRIERS

**PARTICIPATING CARRIERS**

NO OTHER PARTICIPATING CARRIERS

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**EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS**

- C To signify changed regulation
  - D To signify discontinued regulation or rate
  - I To signify increase
  - M To signify matter relocated without change
  - N To signify new rate or regulation
  - R To signify reduction
  - T To signify a change in text but no change in rate or regulation
  - S To signify reissued matt
  - Z To signify a correction
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**EXPLANATION OF ABBREVIATIONS**

BHMC	Busy Hour Minutes of Capacity
CABS	Carrier Access Billing
CIR	Committed Information Rate
CO	Central Office
DA	Directory Assistance
EPVC	Extended Permanent Virtual Connection
EUP	End User Port
FCC	Federal Communications Commission
FRAC	Frame Relay Access Connection
FRAS	Frame Relay Access Service
FRIC	Frame Relay Inter-network Connection
IAM	Initial Address Message
ICP	Inter-network Customer Port
LATA	Local Access & Transport Area
NRC	Nonrecurring Charge
PVC	Permanent Virtual Connection
SPVC	Standard Permanent Virtual Connection
WATS	Wide Area Telephone Service

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**SECTION 1 - APPLICATION OF TARIFF**

This tariff sets forth the regulations, rates and charges for the provision of interstate access service (hereinafter Services) within the service territory of Block Line Systems, LLC.

Services provided to Customers of Block Line Systems, LLC, (hereinafter Company,) include, but are not limited to Common Line, Switched & Special Access, Optional Features & Functions and other Miscellaneous Access Services associated with the provision of Access Services.

Unless otherwise indicated, for purpose of this tariff, the reference to “state” shall mean either the States of Delaware, Maryland Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania, based on the state within which the Company’s facilities are being used to provide the service.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS**

2.1 Undertaking of the Company

2.1.1 Scope

The Company undertakes to provide Service(s) and the furnishing of interstate transmission of information originating and terminating in the States of Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania.

2.1.2 Terms and Conditions

- A. Services are provided 24 hours daily, seven days per week except as set forth in other applicable sections of this tariff. Service is provided on the basis of a minimum period of one month. For the purposes of computing charges in this tariff, a month is considered to have 30 days.
  - B. Customers are required to enter written service orders (ASR) with specific descriptions of service(s) ordered as more specifically covered in the Access Ordering (Section 3) of this tariff.
  - C. The Company does not undertake to transmit messages under this tariff or jointly participate in the Customer's communications. The Customer shall be solely responsible for message content.
  - D. The Company will, for maintenance purposes, test its service to the extent necessary to detect and/or clear troubles.
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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)**

2.1 Undertaking of the Company, Cont'd.)

2.1.2 Terms and Conditions, (Cont'd.)

- E. 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 30 days written notice. Any termination shall not relieve Customer of its obligation to pay any charges incurred under the service order and this tariff prior to termination.
  - F. Service may be terminated on written notice to the Customer if the Customer is using the service in violation of the tariff or the Customer is using the service in violation of the law.
  - G. This tariff shall be interpreted and governed by the rules and/or guidelines of the Federal Communications Commission.
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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)**

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

2.1.3 Limitations

A. Assignment or Transfer of Services

The Customer may assign or transfer the use of Service(s) provided under this tariff only where there is no interruption of use or relocation of the Service(s). Such assignment or transfer may be made to:

1. Another Customer, whether an individual, partnership, association or corporation provided the assignee or transferee assumes all outstanding indebtedness for such services, and the unexpired portion of the minimum period and any termination liability applicable to such Service(s).
  2. In all cases of assignment or transfer, the written acknowledgment of the Company is required prior to such assignment or transfer. This acknowledgment shall be made within 15 days from the receipt of notification. All regulations and conditions contained in this tariff shall apply to such assignee or transfer.
  3. The assignment or transfer of services does not relieve or discharge the assignor or transferor from remaining jointly or severally liable with the assignee or transferee for any obligations existing at the time of the assignment or transfer.
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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)**

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

2.1.3 Limitations, (Cont'd.)

B. Provisioning Sequence

The services offered herein will be provided to Customers on a first-come, first-served basis. The first-come, first-received sequence shall be based on the received time and date recorded by stamp or other notation by the Company on the Customer's Access Service Request (ASR). ASRs must contain all the required information for each respective service so delineated in other sections of this tariff. The Customer's ASRs will not be deemed to have been received until such information is provided.

C. Ownership of Facilities

The title to all facilities provided in accordance with this tariff remains in the Company, its agents or contractors, or successors and assigns.

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

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

2.1.3 Limitations, (Cont'd.)

D. Liability

1. The liability of the Company for damages arising out of the furnishing of its services, including but not limited to mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, or errors or other defects, representations, or use of these services or arising out of failure to furnish the service, whether caused by acts or omission, shall be limited to an amount which shall not exceed an amount equal to the proportionate charge for the period during which the Service was affected. The grant of such an amount for interruption shall be the sole remedy of the Customer and the sole liability of the Company. Company shall not be liable for any indirect, incidental, special or consequential damages, including loss of profits, goodwill, revenue, data, or use, incurred by Customer or by any third party whether in an action in contract or tort, even if such damages were foreseeable or Company had been advised of the possibility of such damages. Company shall bear no liability for use of equipment or service provided in connection with life support systems or devices.
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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)**

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

2.1.3 Limitations, (Cont'd.)

D. Liability, (Cont'd.)

2. The Company shall not be liable for any delay or, failure of performance or equipment due to causes beyond its control, including but not limited to: acts of God, fire, flood, explosion, or other catastrophes; any law, order, regulation, direction, action, or request of the U. S. Government, or of any department, agency, commission, bureau, corporation, or other instrumentality of any one or more of these federal, state, or local governments, or of any civil or military authority; national emergencies; insurrections, riots, wars; unavailability of rights-of-way or materials; or strikes, lockouts, work stoppages, or other labor difficulties.
  3. The Company shall not be liable for (a) any act or omission of any entity furnishing to the Company or to the Company's Customers facilities or equipment used for connection to the Company's Services; or (b) for the acts or omissions of common carriers or warehousemen.
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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)**

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

2.1.3 Limitations, (Cont'd.)

D. Liability, (Cont'd.)

4. The Company shall not be liable for any damages or losses due to the fault or negligence of the Customer due to the failure or malfunction of Customer-provided equipment or facilities.
  5. The Company does not guarantee nor make any warranty with respect to installations it provides for use in an explosive atmosphere. The Customer indemnifies and holds the Company harmless from any and all loss, claims, demands, suits, or other action, or any liability whatsoever, whether suffered, made, instituted, or asserted by any loss, damage, or destruction of any property, whether owned by the Customer or others, caused or claimed to have been caused directly or indirectly by the installation, operation, failure to operate, maintenance, removal presence, condition, location, or use of any installation so provided. The Company reserves the right to require each Customer to sign an agreement acknowledging acceptance of the provisions of this Section as a condition precedent to such installations.
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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)**

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

2.1.3 Limitations, (Cont'd.)

D. Liability, (Cont'd.)

6. The Company is not liable for any defacement of or damage to Customer premises resulting from the furnishing of Service(s) or equipment on such premises or the installation or removal thereof, unless such defacement or damage is caused by negligence or willful misconduct of the Company's employees or agents.
  7. The Company shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by the Customer against any claim, loss or damage arising from the Customer's use of Service(s), involving claims for libel, slander, invasion of privacy, or infringement of copyright arising from the Customer's own communications.
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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)**

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

2.1.3 Limitations, (Cont'd.)

D. Liability, (Cont'd.)

8. The entire liability for any claim, loss, damage or expense from any cause whatsoever shall in no event exceed sums actually paid Company by Customer for the specific Service(s) giving rise to the claim. No action or proceeding against the Company shall be commenced more than two years after the Service is rendered.
  9. The Company makes no warranties or law, statutory representations, express or implied either in fact or by operation of or otherwise, including warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular use.
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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)**

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

2.1.4 Provision of Equipment and Facilities

- A. The Company shall use reasonable efforts to make available Services(s) 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 and subject to the availability of services from other carriers relied upon by the Company for the provision of the Company's Service(s). 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 facilities and equipment that it furnishes to the Customer. The Customer may not, nor may 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 written consent of the Company.
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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)**

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

2.1.4 Provision of Equipment and Facilities, (Cont'd.)

- 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 Service(s) the Company offers shall not be used for any purpose other than that for which the Company provided it.
  - E. The Customer shall be responsible for the payment of Service charges as set forth herein for visits by the Company's employees or agents 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.
  - 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 or Service(s) offered under this tariff, and to the maintenance and operation of such facilities or Service(s). 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;
    - 2. or the reception of signals by Customer-provided Equipment.
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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)**

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

2.1.5 Equipment or Facilities

- A. The Company will provide to the Customer, upon reasonable notice, the Service(s) offered in other applicable sections of this tariff at rates and charges specified therein. Service(s) will be made available to the extent that such Service(s) is or can be made available with reasonable effort, and after provision has been made for the Company's telephone exchange services.
  - B. The Company reserves the right to limit or allocate the use of existing facilities, or of additional facilities offered, when necessary because of a lack of facilities or due to some other cause beyond the Company's control.
  - C. The Service(s) provided under this tariff will include any entrance cable or drop wiring and wire or intra-building cable to that point where provision is made for termination of the Company's outside distribution network facilities at a suitable location inside a customer-designated premises. Such wiring or cable will be installed by the Company to the Point of Demarcation.
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Effective: November 14, 2014

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

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

2.1.5 Equipment or Facilities, (Cont'd.)

- D. The Company may, where such action is reasonably required in the operating of its business, substitute, change or rearrange any facilities used in providing Service(s) under this tariff. The Company shall not be responsible if any such substitution, change or rearrangement renders any customer-furnished equipment or Service(s) obsolete or requires modification or alteration thereof or otherwise affects the operating characteristics of the equipment, facility or Service. The Company will provide reasonable notification to the Customer in writing. The Company will work cooperatively with the Customer and provide reasonable time for any redesign and implementation required by the change in operating characteristics.

2.1.6 Notification of Service-Affecting Activities

- A. 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 preventive maintenance. Generally, such activities are not specific to an individual Customer, but affect many Customers' Service(s). No specific advance notice 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 might not be possible.

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

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

2.1.7 Non-routine Installation

- A. 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 installation charges will be adjusted to reflect increases in costs incurred by the Company.

2.1.8 Special Construction/Special Arrangements

- A. Subject to the plans of the Company and to all of the regulations contained in this tariff, special construction or special arrangements to acquire facilities may be undertaken on a reasonable-efforts basis at the request of the Customer. Special construction is that construction undertaken of a type other than that which the Company would normally utilize in furnishing its Service(s): over a route other than that which the Company utilize in furnishing its Service(s); where facilities are not presently available, and no other requirement exists for the facilities so constructed; on a temporary basis until permanent facilities are available; in a quantity greater than that which the Company would normally construct; facilities required on an expedited basis and/or requiring abnormal costs; or in advance of its normal construction. Special Construction charges will be determined and approved by the Customer prior to the start of such construction.
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**SECTION 2- RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)**

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

2.1.8 Special Construction/Special Arrangements, (Cont'd.)

- B. Special arrangements generally refer to the procurement of facilities where Company facilities are not available and where arrangements or agreements from another entity are required to provision the Service. Special arrangements do not normally require additional costs, but may require additional time to provision.

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

2.2 Obligations of the Customer

2.2.1 The Customer shall be responsible for the following:

- A. ensuring that the characteristics and methods of operation of any circuits, facilities or equipment not provided by the Company and associated with the facilities utilized to provide Service(s) under this tariff shall not interfere with or impair Service over facilities of the Company; cause damage to its plant; impair privacy or create hazards to employees or the public;
  - B. the Service provided under this tariff shall not be used for an unlawful purpose or used in an abusive manner which would reasonably be expected to frighten, abuse, torment or harass another or interfere with use of Service by one or more other Customers;
  - C. Customers who intend to use the Company's offerings for resale and/or for shared use may be required to file a letter with the Company confirming that their use of the Company's offerings complies with relevant laws and FCC regulations, policies, orders, guidelines and decisions;
  - D. payment of all applicable charges pursuant to this tariff;
  - E. damage to or loss of the Company's facilities or equipment caused by acts or omissions of the Customer; or noncompliance by the Customer; or by fire or theft or other casualty on the Customer Premises, unless caused by the negligence or willful misconduct of the Company's employees or agents;
  - F. 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 proper operating environment on such premises;
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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)**

2.2 Obligations of the Customer, (Cont'd.)

2.2.1 (Cont'd.)

- G. where applicable, obtaining, maintaining, and otherwise having full responsibility for all rights-of-way and conduit necessary for installation of cables and associated equipment used to provide services to the Customer from the building service entrance or property line to the location of the equipment space. Any costs associated with the 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;
  - H. providing a safe place to work and complying with all laws and regulations regarding the working conditions on the premises at which the 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., friable asbestos) prior to any construction or installation work;
  - I. 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 2.2(g) 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, testing, repairing, or upon termination of service as stated herein, removing the facilities or equipment of the Company;
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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)**

2.2 Obligations of the Customer, (Cont'd.)

2.2.1 (Cont'd.)

- J. not creating or allowing to be placed any liens or other encumbrances on the Company's equipment or facilities; and
  - K. Customers will use the Service provided by the Company in a manner, and at all times, consistent with the tariff obligations identified herein and shall not utilize the Company's Services(s) in any manner that:
  - L. Interferes with or impairs the Services(s) of the Company, other carriers, or other Customers;
  - M. Causes damage to Company facilities;
  - N. Interferes with the privacy of communications;
  - O. Creates a hazard to the Company's employees or the public; or
  - P. Interferes, frightens, abuses, torments, harasses or unreasonably interferes with the use of the Company's Service by others.
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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)**

2.2 Obligations of the Customer, (Cont'd.)

2.2.2 Claims

With respect to any Service or facility provided by the Company, Customer shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Company from and against all claims, actions, damages, liabilities, costs, and expenses for:

- A. any loss, destruction, or damage to property of the Company or any third party, or the death or injury to persons, including, but not limited to, employees, or invitees of either party, to the extent caused by or resulting from the negligent or intentional act or omission of the Customer, its employees, agents, representatives, or invitees; or
- B. any claim, loss, damage, expense, or liability for infringement of any copyright, patent, trade secret, or any proprietary or intellectual property right of any third party, arising from any act or omission by the Customer, including, without limitation, use of the Company's Service(s) and facilities in a manner not contemplated by the agreement between Customer and Company.

2.3 Customer Equipment and Channels

2.3.1 General

A Customer may transmit or receive information or signals via the facilities of the Company. The Company's Services are designed primarily, but not exclusively, for the transmission of voice-grade telephonic signals, except as otherwise stated in this tariff. The Company does not guarantee that its Service(s) will be suitable for purposes other than voice grade telephonic communication except as specifically stated in this tariff.

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Effective: November 14, 2014

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

2.3 Customer Equipment and Channels, (Cont'd.)

2.3.2 Terminal Equipment

- A. Terminal equipment on the Customer Premises and the electric power consumed by such equipment shall be provided by and maintained at the expense of the Customer.
- 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.

2.3.3 Interconnection of Facilities

- A. Any special interface equipment necessary to achieve compatibility between the facilities and equipment of the Company used for furnishing Communications Services and the channel, facilities, or equipment of others shall be provided at the Customer's expense.
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Effective: November 14, 2014

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

2.3 Customer Equipment and Channels, (Cont'd.)

2.3.3 Interconnection of Facilities, (Cont'd.)

- B. Communications 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 or contracts of other communications carriers which 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 pursuant to Part 68 of Title 47, Code of Federal Regulations; and all Customer-provided wiring shall be installed and maintained in compliance with those regulations.
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Effective: November 14, 2014

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

2.3 Customer Equipment and Channels, (Cont'd.)

2.3.4 Inspections

- A. Upon 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 2.3.2 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.

2.3.5 Prohibited Uses

- A. The Service(s) 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, authorization, licenses, consents, and permits.
  - B. The Company may require applicants for service who intend to use the Company's offerings for resale and/or shared use to file a letter with the Company confirming that their use of Company's offerings complies with relevant laws, and FCC regulations, policies, guidelines, orders and decisions.
  - C. The Company may require a Customer to immediately stop its transmission of signals if said transmission is causing interference to others.
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Effective: November 14, 2014

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

2.4 Payment Arrangements

2.4.1 Payment for Service

The Company shall bill on a current basis all charges incurred by and credits due to the Customer under this tariff attributable to Service(s) established or discontinued during the preceding billing period. End User Common Line Service (End User Service) charges are billed in advance. Charges for the Federal Government are billed in arrears.

Bills will be rendered monthly to the Customer. Each month may have one or more billing dates (cycles) when customer bills are mailed, based on billing system requirements. The Company will endeavor to mail its bills on or before the same date each month to each customer. Should the billing cycle be changed for a particular Customer, the Company will advise the Customer in writing no less than 60 days before the cycle is changed. An alternate billing schedule will not be initiated more than twice in any consecutive twelve-month period.

- A. The Customer is responsible for payment of appropriate sales, use, gross receipts, excise, access or other local, state and federal taxes, charges or surcharges (however designated) (excluding taxes on the Company's net income) imposed or based upon the provision, sale, or use of the Company's Service(s).
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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)**

2.4 Payment Arrangements, (Cont'd.)

2.4.2 Billing and Collection of Charges

- A. All service, installation, and monthly Recurring and Non-Recurring Charges (except those for End User Service) are due on or before the 19th calendar day following the date of the bill, or the 14th calendar day following the receipt of the bill, whichever is later.
  - B. The Company shall present bills for Recurring Charges monthly to the Customer in advance of the month which service is provided.
  - C. For new Customers or existing Customers whose service is disconnected, the charge for the fraction of the month in which service was furnished will be calculated on a pro rata basis. For this purpose, every month is considered to have 30 days.
  - D. Amounts not paid in accordance with Section 2.4.2.A are considered past due.
  - E. When Service does not begin on the first day of the month, or end on the last day of the month, the charge for the fraction of the month in which Service was furnished will be calculated on a pro-rata basis with every month considered to have 30 days.
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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)**

2.4 Payment Arrangements, (Cont'd.)

2.4.2 Billing and Collection of Charges, (Cont'd.)

- F. 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. The Service Order Billing accrues through and includes the day that the Service, circuit, arrangement or component is discontinued.
  
- G. If any portion of the Customer's payment is received by the Company after the date due, or if any portion of the payment is received by the Company in funds which are not immediately available, then a late payment penalty shall be due the Company. The late payment penalty shall be the portion of the payment not received by the due date, multiplied by a late factor. The late factor shall be lesser of:

The highest interest rate (in decimal value) which may be levied by law for commercial transactions, compounded daily from the payment date to and including the date the Customer actually makes the payment to the Company; or 0.000292 per day, compounded daily for the number of days payment date to and including the date the Customer actually makes payment to the Company.

Late payment penalty charge shall apply to disputed amounts resolved in favor of the Company.

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

2.4 Payment Arrangements, (Cont'd.)

2.4.2 Billing and Collection of Charges, (Cont'd.)

- H. In addition to other penalties or fees, the Customer will be assessed a charge of twenty dollars (\$20) for each check submitted by the Customer to the Company which a financial institution refuses to honor for insufficient funds or non-existent account.
- I. 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 reconnection or reestablishment charges.

2.4.3 Advance Payments

To safeguard its interests, the Company may require a Customer to make an advance payment before services and facilities are furnished. The advance payment will not exceed an amount 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.

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ACCESS SERVICE

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Effective: November 14, 2014

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

2.4 Payment Arrangements, (Cont'd.)

2.4.4 Jurisdictional Reporting Requirements

- A. The Company cannot in all cases determine the jurisdictional nature of customer traffic and its related access minutes. In such cases the Customer may be called upon to provide a projected estimate of its traffic, split between interstate and intrastate jurisdictions. Updates to jurisdictional levels may be made by the Customer not more frequently than quarterly. When mixed interstate and intrastate access is provided, all charges, including non-recurring charges, usage charges, and optional features and functions will be prorated between the jurisdictions.
  - B. When a Customer orders Feature Group D Switched Access, the Customer may provide the projected jurisdictional usage for the end office in its order. Alternatively, the Company, where the jurisdiction can be determined from the call detail, will determine the projected jurisdictional usage percentage as follows:
    1. For originating access minutes, the projected jurisdictional usage percentage will be developed on a monthly basis where feature Group D Switched Access Service minutes are measured by dividing the measured interstate (generally calls between states) minutes by the total originating access minutes.
    2. For terminating access minutes, the data used by the Company to develop the projected interstate percentage for originating access minutes will be used to develop the projected interstate percentage for such terminating access minutes.
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ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: November 13, 2014

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Effective: November 14, 2014

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

2.4 Payment Arrangements, (Cont'd.)

2.4.4 Jurisdictional Reporting Requirements, (Cont'd.)

- C. When originating call details are insufficient to determine the jurisdiction for the call, the Customer shall supply the projected interstate percentage or authorized the Company to use the Company-developed percentage. The projected intrastate percentage of use will be obtained by subtracting the projected interstate percentage for originating and terminating access minutes from 100 (intrastate usage percentage = 100- interstate percentage).
  - D. When the Customer orders Special Access Service, or there is a change in the nature of such Service, the Customer must certify to the Company, in writing, the jurisdictional nature and percentage for such service. If a dispute arises concerning the jurisdictional certification of projected usage, the Company shall request the Customer to provide the data the Customer used to determine the jurisdictional nature of the traffic. The Customer shall supply the data within thirty (30) days of the Company request. There are no charges for changes in jurisdictional usage.
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Issued: November 13, 2014

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Effective: November 14, 2014

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

2.4 Payment Arrangements, (Cont'd.)

2.4.5 Deposits

- A. To safeguard its interests, the Company may require a Customer to make a deposit to be held as a guarantee of payment of charges. A deposit may be requested prior to providing Service(s) or at any time after the provision of a Service to the Customer. A deposit does not relieve the Customer of the responsibility for the prompt payment of bills as provided for in this tariff. The deposit will not exceed an amount equal to:
    - 1. Two month's charges for Service or facility which has a minimum payment period of one month; or
    - 2. The charges that would apply for the minimum payment period for a Service or facility which has a minimum payment period of more than one month; except that the deposit may include an additional amount in the event that a termination charge is applicable.
  - B. A deposit may be required in addition to an advance payment.
  - C. When a Service or facility is discontinued, the amount of a deposit, if any, will be applied to the Customer's account and any credit balance remaining will be refunded. Before the Service or facility is discontinued, the Company may, at its option, return the deposit or credit it to the Customer's account.
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Effective: November 14, 2014

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

2.4 Payment Arrangements, (Cont'd.)

2.4.5 Deposits, (Cont'd.)

- C. Interest on interstate deposits will be due the Customer at the same percentage rate as set forth in 2.4.2 G preceding, whichever is lower.
- D. Such a deposit will be refunded or credited to the Customer's account after a one year, prompt-payment record is established.

2.4.6 Discontinuance of Service

- A. Upon nonpayment of any amounts owing to the Company, the Company may by giving ten days' prior written notice to the Customer, discontinue or suspend Service without incurring any liability.
  - B. Upon violation of any of the other material terms or conditions for furnishing Service, the Company may, by giving 30 days' prior notice in writing to the Customer, discontinue or suspend Service without incurring any liability if such violation continues during the period.
  - C. Upon condemnation any material portion of the facilities used by the Company to provide Service to a Customer or if a casualty renders all or any material portion of such facilities inoperable beyond feasible repair, the Company, by notice to the Customer, may discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability.
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ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: November 13, 2014

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Effective: November 14, 2014

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

2.4 Payment Arrangements, (Cont'd.)

2.4.6 Discontinuance of Service (Cont'd.)

- D. Upon any governmental prohibition or required alteration of the Service(s) to be provided or any violation of any applicable law or regulation, the Company may immediately discontinue Service without incurring any liability.
- E. Upon the Company's discontinuance of Service to the Customer under Section 2.4.6.A or 2.4.6.B, the Company, in addition to all other remedies that may be available to the Company at law or in equity or under any other provision of this tariff, may declare all future monthly and other charges which would have been payable by the Customer during the remainder of the term for which such Service(s) would have otherwise been provided to the Customer to be immediately due and payable (discounted to present value at six percent).

2.4.7 Cancellation of Application of Service

Provisions for the cancellation of an Application for Service are provided here and are set forth in other applicable sections of this tariff.

- A. Applications for Service are noncancellable unless the Company otherwise agrees. Where the Company permits Customer to cancel an application for Service prior to the start of Service or prior to any special construction, no charge will be imposed except for those specified below.
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ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: November 13, 2014

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Effective: November 14, 2014

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

2.4 Payment Arrangements, (Cont'd.)

2.4.7 Cancellation of Application for Service, (Cont'd.)

- B. 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 the Company incurred, 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 begun (discounted to present value at 6 percent).
  - C. 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 the Company incurred, less net salvage, shall apply. 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 special construction or arrangements incurred by the Company.
  - D. The special charges described in 2.4.7.A through 2.4.7.C will be calculated and applied on a case-by-case basis.
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ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: November 13, 2014

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Effective: November 14, 2014

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

2.4 Payment Arrangements, (Cont'd.)

2.4.8 Changes in Service Requested

If the Customer makes or requests material changes in circuit engineering, equipment specification-service parameters, premises locations, or requests expedited provisioning, or otherwise materially modifies any provision of the application for service, the Customer's installation fee and/or recurring charges shall be adjusted accordingly.

2.4.9 Allowances for Interruptions in Service

A Service is interrupted when it becomes unusable to the Customer because of a failure of a facility component used to furnish Service under this tariff or in the event that the protective controls applied by the Company result in a complete loss of Service by the Customer. An interruption begins when an inoperable Service is reported to the Company and ends when the Service is operable. If the Customer reports a Service, facility or circuit inoperable, but declines to release it for testing and repair, it is considered to be adversely affected, but not interrupted. In case of an interruption to any Service, allowance for the period of interruption, if not due to negligence of the Customer, shall be provided.

- A. For Switched Access Service, no credit shall be allowed for an interruption of less than 24 hours. The Customer shall be credited for an interruption of 24 hours or more at the rate of 1/30 of any applicable monthly rate or assumed minutes of use charge for each period of 24 hours or major fraction thereof that the interruption continues. The credit allowance(s) for an interruption or for a series of interruptions shall not exceed any monthly rate for the Service interrupted in any one monthly billing period.
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Issued: November 13, 2014

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Effective: November 14, 2014

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

2.4 Payment Arrangements, (Cont'd.)

2.4.9 Allowances for Interruptions in Service, (Cont'd.)

- B. For Special Access Services, no credit shall be allowed for an interruption of less than 30 minutes. The Customer shall be credited for an interruption of 30 minutes or more at the rate of 1/1440 of the monthly charges for the facility or major fraction thereof that the interruption continues. The monthly charges used to determine the credit shall include the Service, Service elements and any optional features and functions associated with the Service.
  - C. For High Capacity Special Services, any period during which the error performance is below that specified for the Service will be considered as an interruption. Service interruptions for specialized or individual case basis (ICB) services shall be administered in the same manner as those set forth in this Section 2.4.9 unless other regulations are specified with an ICB offering.
  - D. A credit allowance does not apply in the following cases:
    - 1. Interruptions caused by the negligence of, or noncompliance with the provisions of this tariff by the Customer, or other common carrier providing service connected to the Service of the Company.
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Issued: November 13, 2014

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

2.4 Payment Arrangements, (Cont'd.)

2.4.9 Allowances for Interruptions in Service, (Cont'd.)

D. (Cont'd.)

2. Interruptions of a Service due to the failure of equipment or systems provided by the Customer or others.
  3. Interruptions of a Service during any period in which the Company is not afforded access to the premises.
  4. 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.
  5. Interruptions of Service due to circumstances or causes beyond the control of the Company or where the Customer continues to use the Service on an impaired basis.
  6. In the case of an interruption to any Service, allowance for the period of interruption if the interruption is not due to the negligence of the Customer.
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ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: November 13, 2014

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Effective: November 14, 2014

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

2.4 Payment Arrangements, (Cont'd.)

2.4.9 Allowances for Interruptions in Service, (Cont'd.)

E. Credit Allowances shall be calculated as follows:

Interruptions of 24 Hours or Less	
Length of Interruption	Interruption Period for Credit
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 Day
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

Two or more interruptions of 15 minutes or more during any one 24-hour period shall be considered as one interruption.

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.

Interruptions Over 72 Hours.

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

Use of an Alternative Service Provided by the Company.

Should the Customer elect to use an alternative service provided by the Company during the period that a Service is interrupted, the Customer must pay the tariffed rates and charges for the alternative service used.

ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: November 13, 2014

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Effective: November 14, 2014

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

2.4 Payment Arrangements, (Cont'd.)

2.4.9 Allowances for Interruptions in Service, (Cont'd.)

Re-establishment of Service Following Fire, Flood, etc. Charges do not apply for the re-establishment of Service following a fire, flood or other occurrence attributed to an Act of God provided that the service: (1) is the same type as was in service prior to the occurrence; (2) is for the same Customer at the same location on the same premises; and is (3) reestablished within 60 days of the occurrence. The 60 days may be extended a reasonable period if the renovation of the original location on the premise is not practical. Nonrecurring charges would apply for establishing Service at a new location on the same premises or for temporary Service at a different premises pending re-establishment of Service at the original location. The Customer shall, in cooperation with the Company, participate in planning the actions to be taken to enable or maintain maximum network capability following natural or manmade disasters affecting Service(s).

ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: November 13, 2014

Transmittal No. 1

Effective: November 14, 2014

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

2.5 Access Billing

2.5.1 Title or Ownership Rights

The payment of rates and charges by Customers for the Services offered under the provisions of this tariff does not assign, confer, or transfer title or ownership rights to proposals or facilities developed or utilized respectively by the Company in provision of such Services.

2.5.2 Billing Standards

- A. The Company shall produce verifiable and auditable access bills in general conformance with accepted industry standards for companies that do not provide bills under a mechanized Carrier Access Billing System/Billing Output Specification (CABS/BOS) equivalent System.
- B. An access bill is comprised of one or more billing elements, including usage sensitive charges, distance sensitive charges, flat-rated charges, individual-case-based (ICB) charges, and non-recurring or special miscellaneous charges that may be appropriate.

2.5.3 Meet Point Billing

When an access service is provided by more than one telecommunications company, each company jointly providing the Service will receive an order or a copy of the Access Service Request from the Customer. Each telecommunications company must ensure that appropriate usage information is provided to the other telecommunications company for access minutes purposes.

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ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: July 15, 2015

**Transmittal No. 2**

Effective: July 16, 2015

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

2.5 Access Billing, (Cont'd.)

2.5.3 Meet Point Billing, (Cont'd.)

A. The Company will provide Service under a multiple bill option. Under a multiple bill option, each Company providing Service will render an access bill to the Customer for its portion of the Service based on its access tariff rates and regulations.

B.

(D)  
|  
|  
(D)

Each billing company will:

1. prepare its own bill;
2. determine its charge(s) for access elements;
3. determine and include all recurring and non-recurring rates and charges of its access tariffs;

(D)  
(D)

The Customer will remit payment directly to each bill rendering company.

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ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: July 15, 2015

Transmittal No. 2

Effective: July 16, 2015

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

2.5 Access Billing, (Cont'd.)

2.5.4 Duration of Use Charges

- A. Customer traffic to end offices will be measured by the Company at end office switches or by the tandem switch provider for terminating tandem routed calls. Originating and terminating measured calls will be processed by the Company to determine the basis for computing chargeable access minutes. (C)  
|  
(C)
  - B. For originating calls over Feature Group D, usage measurement begins when the originating switch receives the first wink supervisory signal forwarded from the Customer's point of termination.
  - C. The measurement of originating usage ends when the originating Feature Group D switch receives disconnect supervision from either the originating end user's end office or the Customer's point of termination, whichever is recognized first by the switch.
  - D. For terminating calls over Feature Group D, the measurement of access minutes begins when the terminating Feature Group D switch receives answer supervision from the terminating user's end office.
  - E. The measurement of terminating call usage over Feature Group D ends when the terminating Feature Group D switch receives disconnect supervision from either the terminating end user's end office, or the Customer's point of termination, whichever is recognized first by the switch.
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ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: November 13, 2014

Transmittal No. 1

Effective: November 14, 2014

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

2.5 Access Billing, (Cont'd.)

2.5.5 Distance Charges

- A. Where charges for an access service are based on distance, the distance between two points is measured as airline distance between rate centers as listed in the National Exchange Carrier Association FCC No. 4, Wire Center Tariff or Local Exchange Routing Guide (LERG) issued by Bellcore which contains Numbering Plan Area (NPA) and Exchange Number Assignment (NXX) (area code and first three digits of a seven-digit telephone number).
  - B. The airline distance between any two rate centers is determined as follows:
    1. Obtain the "V" (vertical) and "H" (horizontal) coordinates for each rate center from the above referenced document(s),
    2. Compute the difference between the "V" coordinates of the two rate centers; and the difference between the two "H" coordinates,
    3. Square the difference obtained in (b) above,
    4. Add the square of the "V" difference and the square of the "H" difference obtained in above,
    5. Divide the sum of the squares by 10. Round to the next higher whole number if any fraction is obtained,
    6. Obtain the square root of the whole number result obtained in (e) above. Round to the next higher whole number if any fraction is obtained. This is the airline mileage applicable.
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ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: November 13, 2014

**Transmittal No. 1**

Effective: November 14, 2014

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

2.5 Access Billing, (Cont'd.)

2.5.6 Suspension, Termination or Refusal of Service

- A. Service may be suspended or terminated for nonpayment (subject to exceptions provided in Section 2.5.7 of any bill or deposit until such bill or deposit is paid. If Service is suspended or terminated for nonpayment, the Customer must remit a connection charge as well as any payment due and any deposit requested by the Company prior to reconnection or reestablishment of Service.
  - B. Suspension or termination of Service will not be made until after: (1) at least 10 days written notification has been served personally on the Customer; (2) at least 10 days after verification of receipt of certified mail has been made by the Company; or (3) at least 10 days after the Customer has refused a certified or registered written notification mailed to the Customer billing address. Service shall not be suspended or terminated on weekends, legal holidays or on days when the business office of the Company is not open for business.
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ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: November 13, 2014

Transmittal No. 1

Effective: November 14, 2014

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

2.5 Access Billing, (Cont'd.)

2.5.6 Suspension, Termination or Refusal of Service, (Cont'd.)

- C. When a Customer refuses to pay bills rendered or deposits requested (subject to exceptions shown in Section 2.5.7 the Company may refuse to process existing orders for Service(s) or to accept new orders for Service.
- D. The Company, after providing notice in writing to the Customer, may suspend, terminate or refuse Service(s) in the event of unauthorized use of Service(s) or facilities received from the Company, where the Customer is indebted to the Company for previously furnished Service(s) or facilities or where the use of Service(s) or facilities have been abandoned. Customers will have an appropriate opportunity to respond to such notice.

2.5.7 Exceptions to Suspension, Termination or Refusal of Service

- A. Service(s) shall not be suspended, terminated, or refused in the following instances:
    - 1. For nonpayment of billed amounts that are in dispute while an investigation of the dispute is being made by the Company (undisputed amounts and subsequent bills must be paid on a timely basis; the Company shall be the sole determiner of a frivolous dispute);
    - 2. For nonpayment of Service which has been billed but not rendered; or
    - 3. For nonpayment of billed amounts for charges other than those for the Service.
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Effective: November 14, 2014

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

2.6 Definitions

**Access:** The ability to enter or exit a local exchange network in order to complete an interstate communication. A connection between a Customer Premises and the Customer Designated Premises of an interexchange carrier for the transmission of communication information.

**Access Charge:** charges assessed to the Customer through which the provider of the switch or facilities is compensated for use of the network components.

**Access Service Request (ASR):** The order placed with a Local Access Provider (Company) for Access.

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

**Carrier Common Line Charge:** A charge to recover the non-traffic sensitive portion of the local loop, drop and associated equipment between the end office switch and the end user customer.

**Committed Information Rate (CIR):** The minimum bandwidth that would be available at any given time between two locations offering frame relay access service that would be guaranteed to go through the network.

**Company:** Block Line Systems, LLC, the issuer of this tariff, a competitive local exchange carrier.

**Conditioning:** Action taken or equipment provided to ensure appropriate transmission characteristics for specific circuits.

**Customer:** The person, firm or corporation which orders service and is responsible for the payment of charges and compliance with the Company's regulations.

**Customer Designated Premises (CDP):** Premises designed by the Customer for the provision of access service.

**Customer Node:** The equipment located at a customer designated premises that terminates a high speed optical channel and converts the signal from an optical to an electrical format.

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ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: November 13, 2014

**Transmittal No. 1**

Effective: November 14, 2014

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

2.6 Definitions, (Cont'd.)

**Customer Serving Wire Center:** The end office or wire center from which a Customer normally receives a dial tone. The point for a circuit's first point of trunking or switching.

**Dedicated Facility:** A facility, circuit or equipment system or subsystem set aside for the sole use of a specific Customer.

**Dial Tone Office:** The local switching center where dial tone is provided for service.

**Duplex Service:** Service which provides for simultaneous transmission in both directions.

**End User:** Users of local telecommunications carrier's services who are not carriers.

**End User Common Line Charge:** A recurring flat monthly charge per line to residential and business end users. This charge covers a portion of the local loop costs.

**Equal Access:** The service which provides trunk connection to switched network services that is equal in type, quality and price to the same service provided to AT&T.

**Exchange:** The geographic area established by the Company and approved by the regulatory commission for the provision of local telecommunications services.

**Extended Permanent Virtual Connection (EPVC):** The term denotes the interconnection of a port on a Buckeye TeleSystem frame relay network with a port on another interconnected frame relay network.

**Fiber Optic Line:** A thin filament of glass with a protective outer coating through which a light beam carrying communications signals may be transmitted by means of multiple internal reflections to a receiver which translates the message.

**Frame:** A group of data bits in a specific format, which enables network equipment to recognize the meaning and purpose of the specific bits for Packet Data Network purposes.

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ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: November 13, 2014

Transmittal No. 1

Effective: November 14, 2014

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

2.6 Definitions, (Cont'd.)

**Frame Relay Access Connection (FRAC):** The physical facility, including the associated port, between the end user's data terminal equipment and the Company's frame relay switch.

**Frame Relay Access Service (FRAS):** A type of packet data network service that allows the interconnection of other carrier's networks or other compatible customer premises equipment for the purpose of connecting to a frame relay network for transmission of data in frame packets.

**Frame Relay End User Port:** A physical location in the Company switching office where the end user customer connects to the frame relay switch/frame relay network. It specifies how a frame relay switch sends and receives data.

**Frame Relay Inter-network Connection (FRIC):** The physical facility, including associated port, between the access customer's frame relay network and the Company's frame relay switch.

**Frame Relay Inter-network Customer Port (IUP):** The physical location in the Company's switching office where the access customer's facility connects to the frame relay access service network. The IUP specifies how a frame relay switch sends and receives data from a frame relay access customer's network.

**High Capacity Special Services:** An Access Service channel for the transmission of isochronous serial data at rates of 1.544, 3.152, 6.312, 44.736 or 274.176 Megabits per second (Mbps).

**Hub:** A physical arrangement/location where bridging and/or multiplexing functions are provided.

**Individual Case Basis (ICB):** Pricing arrangement based on unique customer request.

**Initial Address Message (IAM):** A Common Channel Signaling feature where an SS7 message is sent/received to initiate trunk setup with the busying of an outgoing/ incoming trunk that carries information relating to the routing and handling of the call on that trunk to the next switch.

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ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: November 13, 2014

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Effective: November 14, 2014

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

2.6 Definitions, (Cont'd.)

**Interexchange Carrier:** A carrier engaged in the provision of intrastate, interstate or international telecommunications services.

**Kbps:** Kilobits, denotes one thousand bits per second.

**Local Access and Transport Area:** Geographic areas established for defining the territory within which a Bell Operating Company may offer its exchange telecommunications and exchange access services. Other communications entities may be associated with a BOC LATA or Independent Exchange Carriers' Market Service Area.

**Local Number Portability:** Allows an End User to maintain the same telephone number when changing from one Local Service Provider (LSP) to another.

**Local Routing Number:** The number used to direct the call to the correct Local Service Provider (LSP) network switch for completion when the End User has ported its telephone number to an LSP other than the LSP assigned the NPA-NXX of the End User telephone number.

**Mbps:** Megabits, denotes millions of bits per second.

**Market Service Area:** The geographic area established by an Independent Exchange Carrier not associated with a Bell Operating Company LATA within which they may offer exchange or exchange access telecommunications service.

**Meet Point:** A point designated by two Exchange Carriers for billing purposes.

**Mixed Use:** The use of Switched Access and Special Access services over the same wideband and high capacity facilities through a common interface.

**Multiplexing:** The process of combining multiple parallel circuits into a single communications channel.

**Network:** The Company's fiber optics based facilities and/or purchased facilities as part of an interconnection agreement.

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ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: November 13, 2014

Transmittal No. 1

Effective: November 14, 2014

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

2.6 Definitions, (Cont'd.)

**Nonrecurring Charge:** A one-time charge, generally applied to activities associated with the establishment of service, construction, rearrangements, and/or optional features and functions.

**Optical Carrier Channel:** The high speed optical communications path for transporting information utilizing a Synchronous Optical Channel platform.

**Optional Features and Functions:** These are features and functions a Customer may order to improve the quality or utility of Access Services.

**Packet Data Network:** A high-speed digital data transport mechanism that moves variable-length packets or frames through the network to the same or different addresses.

**Pay Telephone:** The term denotes a coin or coinless instrument provided in a public or semipublic place where Payphone Service Provider customers can originate telephonic communications and pay the applicable charges by (1) inserting coins into the equipment, or (2) using a credit card, or (3) third party billing the call, or (4) calling collect.

**Payphone Service Provider:** The term denotes an entity that provides pay telephone service, which is the provision of public, semi public or inmate pay telephone service.

**Permanent Virtual Connection (PVC):** The term denotes a software defined, end-to-end, bi-directional communications path within the frame network/switch to connect a Frame Relay and User Port.

**Premises:** Space occupied by a Customer or authorized user in a building or buildings or contiguous property (except railroad rights-of-way) not separated by a highway.

**Presubscription:** A process that allows an End User served by an equal access office to select in advance an interexchange carrier automatically for toll communication.

**Point of Termination:** A physical point within a LATA or Market Service Area at which the Company's responsibility for access service ends.

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ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: November 13, 2014

Transmittal No. 1

Effective: November 14, 2014

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

2.6 Definitions, (Cont'd.)

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

**RMS Jitter:** Short-term variations of the significant instants of a digital signal, peak to peak, from their ideal positions in time.

**Service Order:** A written request for Access Services initiated by the Customer to the Company in the format devised by the Company. It is sometimes referred to as an Access Service request (ASR). The signing of a Service Order by the Customer and acceptance by the Company initiates the respective obligations of the parties set forth herein pursuant to this tariff, but the duration of service is calculated from the Service Commencement Date.

**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 the latter case, the Service Commencement Date is the date of the Customer's acceptance. The parties may mutually agree on a substitute Service Commencement Date.

**Special Access Service:** Generally dedicated (private line) facilities between two or more Customer Designated Premises.

**Standard Permanent Virtual Connection (SPVC):** The connection of ports within the same frame relay network or switch. A software connection sometimes referred to as Permanent Virtual Connection (PVC).

**Switched Access Service:** Access to the Company's local switch network by an interexchange carrier for the purposes of originating and/or terminating jurisdictional communications.

**Transport Interconnection Charge:** A per-access minute charge applicable to transport per FCC CC Docket No. 91-213, Report and Order, March 5, 1998.

**Wire Center:** A building in which the Company's switching center is located for the purpose of providing service.

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ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: November 13, 2014

Transmittal No. 1

Effective: November 14, 2014

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**SECTION 3 - ACCESS ORDERING**

3.1 General Ordering Information

3.1.1 General

This section sets forth the regulations and order related charges for Service(s) shown in other sections of this tariff. Order charges are in addition to other applicable charges for Service(s) provided. An Access Service Request (ASR) is an order to provide the Customer with Switched and Special Access or Access Related Service, Frame Relay Access Service or to provide changes to existing access services.

A Customer may order any number of services of the same type and between the same premises on a single ASR. All details for services for a particular order must be identical except for those for multi-point Service.

The Customer shall provide to the Company the following information in addition to other requirements of this section:

Customer name and premises address,

- A. Billing name and address, if different from Customer name and address,
- B. Customer contact name(s) and telephone number(s) for order confirmation, order provisioning information, order negotiation, interactive engineering design, installation and billing.

3.1.2 Service Installation

The Company will provide Access Service in accordance with the Customer's request Service date, subject to the constraints established by the Company schedule of Service dates.

The Company schedule shall specify the applicable service interval for Service(s) and the quantities of Service(s) that can reasonably be provided by a service date. Said schedule will be available to Customers upon request and will be provided in a reasonable period of time.

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ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: November 13, 2014

Transmittal No. 1

Effective: November 14, 2014

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**SECTION 3 - ACCESS ORDERING, (CONT'D.)**

3.1 General Ordering Information, (Cont'd.)

3.1.2 Service Installation, (Cont'd.)

Installation of Services(s) will be during Company business days and hours. Customer requests for installations outside of scheduled work hours, if agreed to by the Company, will be subject to applicable labor charges.

The Company will not accept orders for Service that are for a date more than six months from the current date. The Company will, however, accept information for planning purposes in advance of order placement.

3.1.3 Expedited Orders

When a Customer places an Access Service Request (ASR) and requests a Service date that is prior to the Company's applicable interval service date of the Company, or when a Customer requests an earlier Service date on an existing ASR, the Company, in addition to other applicable charges for modification or Service date change, will determine if it can meet the requested date and what additional labor and /or extraordinary costs are required. The Customer will be notified of the additional estimated costs for authorization.

Upon authorization of additional costs by the Customer, the Company will keep a record to accumulate such costs and assure that costs will not exceed 10 percent of the estimated charges to the Customer.

3.1.4 Selection of Facilities

Except for High Capacity Special Services facilities, the option to request a specific path or channel is not provided to the Customer, but within the purview of the Company.

Where there are High Capacity Special Services facilities to a hub on order or in Service for the Customer's use, or where special facilities routing is provided, the Customer may request a specific channel or transmission path be used to provide Service in which case the Company will make a reasonable effort to accommodate the Customer request.

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ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: November 13, 2014

**Transmittal No. 1**

Effective: November 14, 2014

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**SECTION 3 - ACCESS ORDERING, (CONT'D.)**

3.2 Ordering Requirements

3.2.1 Switched Access Service Feature Group D

When ordering Feature Group D Switched Access Service, the following information shall be provided by the Customer:

- A. The number of Busy Hour Minutes of Capacity (BHMC) from the customer designated premises to the end office of the number of trunks desired between the Customer designated premises and the entry switch;
- B. Optional Features desired; and
- C. Projected percentage of jurisdictional use.

3.2.2 Special Access Service

When ordering Special Access Service, the Customer shall provide the following specific information:

- A. The Customer Designated Premises (CDP) or hubs required;
  - B. The type of service (e.g., voice grade, high capacity, etc.);
  - C. The channel interface(s);
  - D. The technical specification package;
  - E. Options desired;
  - F. Jurisdictional nature of traffic; and
  - G. For multi-point services, the channel interface at each CDP.
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ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: November 13, 2014

**Transmittal No. 1**

Effective: November 14, 2014

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**SECTION 3 - ACCESS ORDERING, (CONT'D.)**

3.2 Ordering Requirements, (Cont'd.)

3.2.3 WATS or WATS-Type Service

Special Access may be ordered for connection with Feature Group D Switched Access Service for the provision of WATS or WATS-Type Service. When WATS or WATS-type Services or optional features, such as screening, are not provided at the Customer's serving wire center, Channel Mileage must be ordered to the nearest WATS serving office where the functions can be provided. The Customer shall specify:

- A. The CDP at which the service terminates;
  - B. The type of line (e.g. two-wire/four-wire);
  - C. The type of calling (e.g. originating, terminating, two-way); and
  - D. The type of signaling.
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ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: November 13, 2014

**Transmittal No. 1**

Effective: November 14, 2014

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**SECTION 3 - ACCESS ORDERING, (CONT'D.)**

3.2 Ordering Requirements, (Cont'd.)

3.2.4 Miscellaneous Services

Miscellaneous Services may include, but are not limited to testing, special facilities routing, and additional labor. These items may be ordered initially or may subsequently be added to a pending order at any time up to and including the service date for the Access Service. When a Service date change results from ordering these Miscellaneous Services, the appropriate Service Date Change and/or Design Change charge will apply.

When the Company determines that Additional Engineering is necessary to accommodate a Customer request, the Customer will be notified by the Company of the reason for, and amount of Additional Engineering. A firm order will only be established where the Customer agrees to the Additional Engineering. The Company will assure that Additional Engineering charges do not exceed the estimate by more than 10 percent.

In any instance where an Access Order affects more than one communications company, the Customer must also provide a copy of the order to the company(s) involved.

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ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: November 13, 2014

Transmittal No. 1

Effective: November 14, 2014

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**SECTION 3 - ACCESS ORDERING, (CONT'D.)**

3.2 Ordering Requirements, (Cont'd.)

3.2.5 Frame Relay Access Service

When ordering Frame Relay Access Service, a minimum of two port connections are required for data to be transported between Customer designated premises.

A. When placing an order for Frame Relay Access Service, the Customer must specify the:

1. customer designated premises;
2. type of channel;
3. channel interface(s);
4. technical specification package and options desired, if any;
5. type of FRAC or FRIC connection desired;
6. port speed, or if port only desired (EUP, ICP);
7. number and type of Permanent Virtual Connections desired;
8. location of the ports for each PVC;
9. Committed Information Rates (CIRs) that will be associated with each PVC; and
10. jurisdiction of the traffic.

The port connecting the Special Access facility to the Company frame relay switch must be ordered and provided at the same speed as the facility.

When an extended PVC (EPVC) is ordered, the Customer is responsible for placing the order with all companies involved in provisioning the service.

The Customer must specify on the order its desire for the appropriate term discount plan. Where the facility capacity remains constant and the Customer wishes to maintain the existing term discount period and minimum service period, the Customer's order to install and disconnect Frame Relay Access Service connections provided under a term discount plan must be received at the same time and must reference continuation of the existing term discount plan.

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ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: November 13, 2014

**Transmittal No. 1**

Effective: November 14, 2014

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**SECTION 3 - ACCESS ORDERING, (CONT'D.)**

3.3 Access Ordering Charges

3.3.1 Access Order Charge

An Access Order Charge is applied to all Customer requests for new, additions, or changes and rearrangements to existing Special and Switched Access Service, Frame Relay Access Service, except as follows:

- A. When a Service Date Change Charge is applicable;
- B. When a Design Change Charge is applicable;
- C. When a change to a pending order does not result in the cancellation of the pending order and the issuance is a new order;
- D. When a Miscellaneous Service Order Charge is applicable;
- E. When a Presubscription Charge is applicable; or
- F. When a Company initiated network reconfiguration requires a Customer's existing access service to be reconfigured.

An Access Order Charge will be applied on a per order basis to each order, or copy of an order received by the Company.

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ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: November 13, 2014

**Transmittal No. 1**

Effective: November 14, 2014

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**SECTION 3 - ACCESS ORDERING, (CONT'D.)**

3.3 Access Ordering Charges, (Cont'd.)

3.3.2 Access Order Change Charge

Access Order Change Charges involve service date changes and/or design changes. A change would be a Customer request any time prior to the Service date for the requested Service(s). Any increase in the number of Switched Access lines, trunks or BHMC or any increase in the number of Special Access Service channels will be treated as a new order (for the increased amounts) rather than a change order. When order changes are necessary to satisfy transmission performance requirements for Special Access Service, these changes will be made by the Company without order change charges to the Customer.

ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: November 13, 2014

**Transmittal No. 1**

Effective: November 14, 2014

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**SECTION 3 - ACCESS ORDERING, (CONT'D.)**

3.3 Access Ordering Charges, (Cont'd.)

3.3.3 Service Date Change Charge

A change of Service date is a change of the scheduled Service date by the Customer to either an earlier date or a later date which does not exceed 30 calendar days from the original Service date. The Customer may request a change of Service date on a pending Access Service Request prior to the Service date and if the Company can accommodate the change, a new Service date will be set and a service date change charge will apply.

3.3.4 Design Change Charge

A design change is any change to an Access Service Request that requires engineering review prior to the requested service date. Design changes do not include a change of CDP, first point of switching or Special Access channel type. Changes of this nature require the issuance of a new order and the cancellation of the original order. Design changes would include such items as the addition or deletion of optional features or functions, change in type of transport termination, type of channel interface group or technical specification changes.

The Company will review the requested Customer change and notify the Customer whether the change is a design change, if it can be accommodated, and if a new Service date is required. On Customer approval, a Design Change Charge would apply in addition to any other charges (e.g. service date change).

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ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: November 13, 2014

Transmittal No. 1

Effective: November 14, 2014

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**SECTION 3 - ACCESS ORDERING, (CONT'D.)**

3.3 Access Ordering Charges, (Cont'd.)

3.3.5 Miscellaneous Service Order Charge

A Miscellaneous Service Order Charge is for compensation of administrative expenses associated with issuing the order associated with the provision of Miscellaneous Services such as overtime repair, standby repair, testing, and other labor. The charge does not apply to Service(s) where a pending Service order exists, such as additional engineering, overtime installation, standby acceptance testing, testing with other companies with acceptance testing and additional cooperative acceptance testing.

3.3.6 Cancellation of Access Order Charge

A Customer may cancel an Access Order for the installation of Service on any date prior to the Service date. The cancellation date is the date on which the Company receives written notice from the Customer. When a Customer cancels an Access Service Request, a Cancellation Charge will apply as follows:

Installation of Switched Access Service, Special Access Service, or Frame Relay Access Service facilities is considered to have started when the Company incurs any cost in connection with provision the Service that otherwise would not have been incurred.

When installation of access facilities has been started prior to the cancellation, a charge equal to the lower of either the cost incurred in such installation, less net salvage, or the charges for minimum period for the service will apply.

Any partial cancellation (e.g. cancellation in the number of trunks, channels ordered) will be treated as a cancellation and subject to applicable charges as stated in this Section.

Where the Customer cancels an Access Service Request prior to the start of installation of access facilities and no costs have occurred, no charges shall apply.

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ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: July 14, 2017

Transmittal No. 5

Effective: July 29, 2017

**SECTION 4 - ACCESS SERVICE RATES**

4.1 Rates and Charges

4.1.1 Rates and Charges – Embarq Territory

A. Pennsylvania, New Jersey, all zones

	Originating	CLEC Terminating	ULEC Terminating	(N) (N) (R/N)
Tandem-Switched Transport - Termination, per minute	\$0.000449	\$0.000449	\$0.000000	(R/N)
Tandem-Switched Transport - Facility, per minute per mile	\$0.000022	\$0.000022	\$0.000000	
Access Tandem Switching, per minute	\$0.001438	\$0.001438	\$0.000700	
CMUX, per minute	\$0.000469	\$0.000469	\$0.000000	
CTP, per minute	\$0.000490	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	(R/N)
Local Switching, per minute	\$0.003892	\$0.000000 (R)	\$0.000000	(R/N)
Host-Remote Transport - Termination, per minute	\$0.000449	\$0.000449	\$0.000000	(R/N)
Host-Remote Transport - Facility, per minute per mile	\$0.000022	\$0.000022	\$0.000000	
Host/Remote - CMUX per minute	\$0.000469	\$0.000469	\$0.000000	
Host Remote - CTP per minute, per termination	\$0.000490	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	(R/N)

ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: July 14, 2017

Transmittal No. 5

Effective: July 29, 2017

**SECTION 4 - ACCESS SERVICE RATES, (CONT'D.)**

4.1 Rates and Charges, (Cont'd.)

4.1.2 Rates and Charges - Verizon Territory

A. Massachusetts, New York

	Originating	CLEC Terminating	ULEC Terminating	(N) (N) (R/N)
Tandem-Switched Transport - Termination, per minute	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	(R/N)
Tandem-Switched Transport - Facility, per minute per mile	\$0.000002	\$0.000002	\$0.000000	
Access Tandem Switching, per minute	\$0.001574	\$0.001574	\$0.000700	
CMUX, per minute	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	
CTP, per minute	\$0.001688	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	(R/N)
Local Switching, per minute	\$0.002406	\$0.000000(R)	\$0.000000	(R/N)
Host-Remote Transport - Termination, per minute	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	(R/N)
Host/Remote, per minute per mile	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	(R/N)

B. Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey and Pennsylvania

	Originating	CLEC Terminating	ULEC Terminating	(N) (N) (R/N)
Tandem-Switched Transport - Termination, per minute	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	(R/N)
Tandem-Switched Transport - Facility, per minute per mile	\$0.000002	\$0.000002	\$0.000000	
Access Tandem Switching, per minute	\$0.001574	\$0.001574	\$0.000700	
CMUX, per minute	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	
CTP, per minute	\$0.001688	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	(R/N)
Local Switching, per minute	\$0.002406	\$0.000000 (R)	\$0.000000	(R/N)
Host-Remote Transport - Termination, per minute	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	(R/N)
Host/Remote, per minute per mile	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	(R/N)

ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: July 14, 2017

Transmittal No. 5

Effective: July 29, 2017

**SECTION 4 - ACCESS SERVICE RATES, (CONT'D.)**

4.1 Rates and Charges, (Cont'd.)

4.1.2 Rates and Charges - Verizon Territory, (Cont'd.)

C. Pennsylvania, all zones (former GTE Territory)

	Originating	CLEC Terminating	ULEC Terminating	(N) (N) (R/N)
Tandem-Switched Transport - Termination, per minute	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	(R/N)
Tandem-Switched Transport - Facility, per minute per mile	\$0.000002	\$0.000002	\$0.000000	
Access Tandem Switching, per minute	\$0.001574	\$0.001574	\$0.000700	
CMUX, per minute	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	
CTP, per minute	\$0.001688	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	(R/N)
Local Switching, per minute	\$0.002406	\$0.000000 (R)	\$0.000000	(R/N)
Host-Remote Transport - Termination, per minute	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	(R/N)
Host-Remote Transport - Facility, per minute per mile	\$0.000002	\$0.000002	\$0.000000	(R/N)
Host/Remote - CTP, per minute	\$0.001688	\$0.000000		



ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: July 15, 2015

Transmittal No. 2

Effective: July 16, 2015

**SECTION 4 - ACCESS SERVICE RATES, (CONT'D.)**

4.1 Rates and Charges, (Cont'd.)

4.1.3 Toll-Free 8XX Data Base Access Service - Per Query

Per Query Charge \$0.00750

4.1.4 Switched Access Optional Features

Optional Features are provided on an Individual Case Basis as Special Service Arrangements pursuant to Section 6 of this tariff.

4.1.5 Services Order Charges

Service Order Charges recover the administrative costs associated with initiating Access Service.

Per Service Order ICB

4.1.6 Service Provider Number Portability

Per End Office or Tandem Query \$0.000926

Per Database Query \$0.000648

(N)

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(N)

ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: November 13, 2014

**Transmittal No. 1**

Effective: November 14, 2014

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**SECTION 5 - DEDICATED ACCESS SERVICE**

5.1 General

5.1.1 The Company, at its discretion may provide interstate Dedicated Access Services with transmission speeds ranging from 2.4 Kbps to 2.4 Gbps. Dedicated Access Services are offered on a point-to-point basis only. Each Dedicated Access Service is dedicated to a single Customer and the entire usable bandwidth for each service is available to that Customer for their exclusive use.

5.1.2 All Dedicated Access Services, if offered, will be provided on an individual case basis.

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TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 1  
2<sup>nd</sup> Revised Page 74  
Cancels 1<sup>st</sup> Revised Page 74

ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: July 14, 2017

Transmittal No. 5

Effective: July 29, 2017

**SECTION 6 - MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES AND CHARGES**

6.1 End User Common Line Charge

The Company recovers some of the costs of the telephone line or trunk connected to the customer's premises through a monthly charge called the End User Access Charge. The End User Access Charge is a monthly, flat-rated charge assessed to end users for each local exchange service line or trunk.

Monthly Charge, per line or trunk:

Primary Residential Line	\$6.50	
Additional Residential Line	\$6.50	
Single Line Business	\$6.50	
Multiline Business	\$12.20	
Business Centrex	\$12.20	(N)
Primary Rate ISDN-BRI <sup>#</sup>	\$12.20	(N/T)
Primary Rate ISDN-PRI <sup>#</sup>	\$49.00	(T)

<sup>#</sup> - Includes ISDN EUCL Port Charge

(T)

Block Line Systems, LLC  
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ACCESS SERVICE

Issued: July 14, 2017

Transmittal No. 5

Effective: July 29, 2017

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**SECTION 7 - ACCESS RECOVERY CHARGE**

7.1 General

The Company will assess an Access Recovery Charge ("ARC") on end users who obtain local telephone exchange service from this tariff.

7.2 Rates and Charges

Maximum Rate per line

Primary Residential Line	\$1.46	(I)
Additional Residential Line	\$1.46	
Single Line Business	\$1.46	
Multiline Business	\$2.97	
Business Centrex	\$0.59	(I)
ISDN BRI	\$1.46	(N)
ISDN PRI	\$14.85	(I)