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6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

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6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

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6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

6.1 GENERAL

Feature Group D (FGD) Switched Access Service, which is available to customers for their use in furnishing their services to end users, provides a two-point electrical communications path between a customer's premises and an end user's premises via a LEC tandem. It provides for the use of terminating, switching, transport facilities and common subscriber plant of the Company.

Switched Access Service provides for the ability to originate calls from an end user's premises to a customer's premises, and to terminate calls from a customer's premises to an end user's premises in the LATA where it is provided.

Rates and charges for Switched Access Service are set forth in Section 6.8 in the Addendum, following. The application of rates for Switched Access Service is described in 6.7, following.

As established in the 8YY Access Charge Reform (FCC 20-143), existing tandem switching charges and transport charges for originating 8YY traffic are eliminated and a single joint tandem switched access service rate element for 8YY originating access service is established as 8YY Joint Tandem Switched Transport.

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6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

6.1 GENERAL (Cont'd)

6.1.1 SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE ARRANGEMENTS AND MANNER OF PROVISION

- A. FGD is furnished on a per trunk basis.
- B. Trunks are differentiated by type and directionality of traffic carried over a Switched Access Service arrangement. Differentiation among traffic types is necessary for the Company to design Switched Access Service properly to meet the traffic carrying capacity requirement of the customer.
- C. There are two major traffic types:
 - 1. Originating traffic type represents access capacity within a LATA for carrying traffic from the Company's end user to the customer.
 - 2. Terminating traffic type represents access capacity within a LATA for carrying traffic from the customer to the Company's end user.

When ordering capacity for Trunkside Switched Access, the customer must, at a minimum, specify such access capacity in terms of Originating and/or Terminating traffic type.

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6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

6.1 GENERAL (Cont'd)

6.1.2 **RATE CATEGORIES**

The three rate categories which apply to the Company's Switched Access Service:

- Switched Transport (described in 6.1.2.A., following).
- Local Switching (described in 6.1.2.B., following).
- Common Line (described in Section 3, preceding).

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6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

6.1 GENERAL

6.1.2 **RATE CATEGORIES (Cont'd)**

The following diagram, in combination with the billing described in Section 2.4.8, depict a possible serving arrangement and components of Switched Access Service and the manner in which the components are combined to provide a complete access service. LEC Tandem Routing is used when the customer is indirectly connected to the Company's end office via a LEC tandem. The following diagram is not intended to depict all serving arrangements available.

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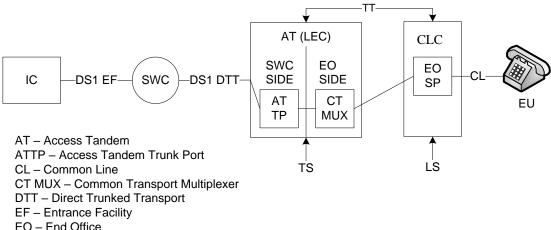
6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

6.1 GENERAL

6.1.2 **RATE CATEGORIES (Cont'd)**

EXAMPLE 1

Switched Access Service Ordered with LEC Tandem Routing



EO - End Office

EO SP - End Office Shared Port

EU - End User

IC – Interexchange Carrier

LEC – Local Exchange Carrier

LS - Local Switching

MUX - Multiplexer

SWC - Serving Wire Center

TS - Tandem Switching

TT – Tandem Transmission

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6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

6.1 GENERAL

6.1.2 RATE CATEGORIES (Cont'd)

A. Switched Transport

1. General Description

The Switched Transport rate category provides the transmission facilities between the customer's premises and the end office switch(s) where the customer's traffic is switched to originate or terminate its communications. The Switched Transport rate category provides the transmission facilities between the customer's premises and a LEC tandem.

Switched Transport is a two-way voice-frequency transmission path composed of an Entrance Facility (EF) and a Direct-Trunked Transport (DTT) facility to the tandem and Tandem-Switched Transport (TST) from the tandem to the subtending end offices. The transmission path permits the transport of calls in the originating direction (from the end user's end office switch to the customer's premises) and in the terminating direction (from the customer's premises to the end office switch), but not simultaneously. The voice-frequency transmission path may be comprised of any form or configuration of plant capable of and typically used in the telecommunications industry for the transmission of voice and associated telephone signals within the frequency bandwidth of approximately 300 to 3000 Hz.

Switched Transport is provided at the rates and charges set forth in Section in the Addendum, following. The application of these rates with respect to the different types of service is as set forth in 6.7.1, following.

Switched Access is ordered under the access order provisions as set forth in Section 5, preceding. Design and traffic routing of Switched Access Service is described in 6.5.2, following.

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6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

6.1 GENERAL

6.1.2 **RATE CATEGORIES**

A. Switched Transport (Cont'd)

2. Switched Transport TST Rate Category

TST provides the transmission facilities between a LEC tandem and the Company's end offices subtending that tandem. For TST, the Company will determine the type of facilities to the end office(s) based on the customer's order for service on a per-trunk

The TST rate category is composed of the Tandem Transmission rate element, a fixed per-MOU rate and per-mile/per-MOU rate. The fixed rate provides for the circuit equipment at the end of the interoffice transmission paths. The per-mile rate provides for the transmission facilities, including intermediate transmission circuit equipment between the end points of the interoffice circuit. For purposes of determining the per-mile rate, mileage will be measured as airline mileage using the V & H coordinates method. Mileage measurement rules are set forth in 6.7.7, and rates and charges are set forth in Section 6.8 in the Addendum, following.

3. Tandem Switching

Tandem Switching is per-MOU rate assessed for utilization tandem switching functions when tandem routing is requested for trunkside services.

4. Common Transport Multiplexing

Common Transport multiplexing equipment is utilized in the end office side of the access tandem when common transport is provided between the access tandem and the subtending end offices. This rate is assessed on the per-MOU basis.

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6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

6.1 GENERAL

6.1.2 RATE CATEGORIES (Cont'd)

B. Local Switching

The Local Switching rate category provides the local end office switching, end user line termination and intercept functions necessary to complete the transmission of Switched Access Communications to and from the end users served by the local end office. The Local Switching rate categories are described following. Local Switching rates are set forth in Section 6.8 in the Addendum. The application of these rates with respect to the different types of service are set forth in 6.7.1, following.

1. Local End Office Switching Functions

a. Common Switching

Common Switching provides the local end office switching functions. Included as part of Common Switching are optional features which the customer can order. These optional features are described in 6.3, following.

b. Transport Termination

Transport Termination provides for the lineside or trunkside arrangements which terminate the Switched Transport facilities. The number of Transport Terminations will be determined by the Company as set forth in 6.5.5, following.

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6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

- 6.1 GENERAL
- **6.1.2** RATE CATEGORIES
 - B. Local Switching (Cont'd)
 - 2. Local Switching Rate Categories
 - a. Local Switching per MOU rate elements applies to originating and terminating minutes.
 - b. End Office Shared Port

The End Office Shared Port rate provides for the termination of Tandem Transmission trunks in the shared end office ports. The End Office Shared Port is assessed on a per MOU basis to all trunkside originating and terminating access minutes utilizing tandem routing to an end office.

c. Toll-Free Database Access Service

Toll Free Data Base Access Service is a service offering utilizing originating trunk side Switched Access Service. The service provides for the forwarding of end user dialed Toll Free calls to a Company Service Switching Point which will initiate a query to the data base to perform the Customer identification and delivery function. The call is forwarded to the appropriate Customer based on the dialed Toll Free number. Toll Free Data Base Access Service is comprised of the following elements:

• Basic Query - Customer Identification Charge

The Toll Free Data Base Access Service Basic Query Charge applies for the identification of the appropriate Customer and delivery of the dialed 800 ten digit number. The charge is assessed to the Customer on a per query basis and may include an area of service which may range from a single NPA/NXX to an area consisting of all LATAs and NPAs. The Toll Free Basic Query Charge is set forth in 6.8.1.

Complex Query – Vertical Feature Charge

The Toll Free Data Base Access Service Complex Query Charge provides feature functionality in addition to the basic query. The feature package may include various destination options such as POTS Translation, carrier selection, time of day routing, day of week routing, specific date routing, geographic routing, routing based on percent of allocation, and emergency routing profiles. The Toll Free Complex Query Charge is set forth in 6.8.1.

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6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

6.1 GENERAL (Cont'd)

6.1.3 ACCEPTANCE TESTING

At no additional charge, the Company will perform acceptance testing at the time of installation. Acceptance tests will be performed to insure that the service is operational and meets applicable technical parameters. The Company will, at the customer's request, schedule a mutually agreeable time to perform acceptance testing in cooperation with the customer. If the customer is unable to participate in the acceptance testing, or if the customer requests that service installation be completed, without their presence, the service is assumed to be accepted (i.e., blind acceptance) by the customer.

6.1.4 ORDERING OPTIONS AND CONDITIONS

Switched Access Service is ordered under the Access Order provisions set forth in Section 5, preceding.

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6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

6.2 PROVISION AND DESCRIPTION OF SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

6.2.1 PROVISION OF SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

- A. Switched Access Service is provided in different serving arrangements. The provision of each type of Switched Access Service requires Switched Transport facilities.
- B. Serving arrangements are arranged for either originating, terminating or two-way calling, based on the capacity the customer ordered. Originating calling permits the delivery of calls from the Company's Telephone Exchange Service locations to the customer's premises. Terminating calling permits the delivery of calls from the customer's premises to the Company's Telephone Exchange Service locations. Two-way calling permits the delivery of calls in both directions, but not simultaneously. The Company will determine the type of calling to be provided unless the customer requests that a different type of directional calling is to be provided. In such cases, the Company will work cooperatively with the customer to determine the directionality.
- C. Following are detailed descriptions of each of the available Switched Access Services. Each service is described in terms of its specific physical characteristics and calling patterns, the transport provisioning, the transmission specifications with which it is provided, the optional features available for use with it and the standard testing capabilities.
- D. Availability and wire center information are as set forth in the National Exchange Carrier Association (N.E.C.A.) Tariff F.C.C No. 4.

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6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

6.2 PROVISION AND DESCRIPTION OF SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (Cont'd)

6.2.2 DESCRIPTION OF FEATURE GROUP D (FGD)

- A. FGD is provided at Company designated end office switches or at tandem switches.
- B. FGD provides a trunkside termination through the use of tandem switch trunk equipment.
- C. When Feature Group D is switched through an access tandem, the Company's Switched Transport configuration is composed of TST from the access tandem to the end offices subtending the tandem.
- D. The number dialed by the customer's end user shall be a seven or ten digit number for calls in the North American Numbering Plan (NANP). The form of the numbers dialed by the end user is 1 + NPA + NXX-XXXX.
- E. FGD is provided with Transmission Type A1 parameters that are delineated in industry standards and Technical Publications.
- F. FGD is provided, in the terminating direction where equipment is available, with ten digit access to milliwatt (102 type) test line.

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6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

6.3 COMMON SWITCHING OPTIONAL FEATURES

Following are descriptions of the various optional features that are available in lieu of, or in addition to, the standard features provided with the Switched Access Services. They are provided as Common Switching options.

6.3.1 **AUTOMATIC NUMBER IDENTIFICATION (ANI)**

- A. This option provides the automatic transmission of a three or ten digit number and information digits to the customer's premises for calls originating in the LATA, to identify the calling station. The three or ten digit numbers will contain the following information: three digit, NPA only and ten digit, NPA+NXX-XXXX. The ANI feature is an end office software function which is associated on a call-by-call basis with trunk groups between a customer's premises routed through an access tandem.
- B. Where ANI cannot be provided, information digits will be provided to the customer.

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6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

6.3 COMMON SWITCHING OPTIONAL FEATURES 6.3.1 **AUTOMATIC NUMBER IDENTIFICATION (ANI) (Cont'd)**

- C. ANI information and Charge Number information are provided based on the following requirements:
 - 1. The telephone number and billing information may be used for billing and collection, routing, screening, and completion of the originating subscriber's call or transaction, or for services directly related to the originating subscriber's call or transaction;
 - 2. The ANI information shall not be reused or resold without first (A) notifying the originating subscriber and (B) obtaining the affirmative consent of such subscriber for such reuse or resale; and
 - 3. ANI information shall not be disclosed, except as permitted by (1) and (2), above, for any purpose other than (i) performing the services or transactions that are the subject of the originating subscriber's call, (ii) ensuring network performance security, and the effectiveness of call delivery, (iii) compiling, using and disclosing aggregate information, and (iv) complying with applicable law or legal process.

6.3.2 SERVICE CLASS ROUTING

This option provides the capability of directing originating traffic from an end office to a tandem trunk group to a customer designated premises, based on service access code (e.g., 8XX). It is provided in suitably equipped tandem switches based on technical limitations.

6.4 TRANSMISSION SPECIFICATIONS

Each Switched Access Service transmission path is provided with standard transmission parameter limits for service routed to a tandem.

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6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

6.5 OBLIGATIONS OF THE COMPANY

In addition to the obligations of the Company set forth in Section 2, preceding, the Company has certain other obligations pertaining only to the provision of Switched Access Service. These obligations are as follows:

6.5.1 NETWORK MANAGEMENT

The Company will administer its network to ensure the provision of acceptable service levels to all telecommunications users of the Company's network services.

Generally, service levels are considered acceptable only when Company end users and customers are able to establish connections with little or no delay encountered within the Company network. The Company maintains the right to apply protective controls, i.e., those actions, such as call gapping, which selectively cancel the completion of traffic, over any traffic carried over its network, including that associated with a customer's Switched Access Service. Generally, such protective measures would only be taken as a result of occurrences such as failure or overload of Company or customer facilities, natural disasters, mass calling or national security demands. In the event that the protective controls applied by the Company result in the complete loss of service by the customer, the customer will be granted a Credit Allowance for Service Interruption as set forth in 2.4.5.B., preceding.

6.5.2 DESIGN AND TRAFFIC ROUTING OF SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

When ordering Switched Access Service, the customer shall specify on the order for service the number of trunks and the desired directionality (i.e., one-way, two-way). When the customer orders facilities, routing, directionality or optional features different from that determined to be available by the Company, the Company will work cooperatively with the customer in determining an acceptable configuration based on available facilities, equipment and the Company routing plans. Rates and charges for Switched Transport, as set forth in Section 6.8 in the Addendum, following, will be applied based on the transport provisioned at the time the order is completed.

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6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

6.5 OBLIGATIONS OF THE COMPANY (Cont'd)

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6.5.3 PROVISION OF SERVICE PERFORMANCE DATA

Subject to availability, end-to-end service performance data available to the Company through its own service evaluation routines, may also be made available to the customer based on previously arranged intervals and format. These data provide information on overall end-to-end call completion and non-completion performance, e.g., customer equipment blockage, failure results and transmission performance. These data do not include service performance data which are provided under other Tariff sections, e.g., testing service results. If data are to be provided in other than paper format, the charges for such exchange will be determined on an individual case basis.

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6.5.4 TRUNK GROUP MEASUREMENT REPORTS

Subject to availability, the Company will make available trunk group data in the form of usage in CCS, peg count and overflow, to the customer based on previously agreed to intervals.

6.5.5 DETERMINATION OF NUMBER OF END OFFICE TRANSPORT TERMINATIONS

For digital entry switches, an equivalent termination will be provided for each Feature Group or trunk requested

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6.5 OBLIGATIONS OF THE COMPANY (Cont'd)

6.5.6 **DESIGN BLOCKING PROBABILITY**

The Company will perform routine measurement functions for the trunks ordered in accordance with Company design blocking criteria to assure that an adequate number of trunks are in service. The Company will recommend that additional trunks be ordered by the customer when additional trunks are required to reduce the measured blocking to the designed blocking level. Where design blocking criteria apply, the design blocking objective is assumed to have been met if the routine measurements show that the measured blocking does not exceed the thresholds listed in the following table.

For transmission paths carrying first-routed traffic between an end office and a customer's premises via a tandem, the measured blocking thresholds are as follows:

Number of Transmission Paths Per Trunk Group	MEASURED BLOCKING THRESHOLDS IN THE TIME CONSISTENT BUSY HOUR FOR THE NUMBER OF MEASUREMENTS PER TRUNK GROUP			
	15-20 MEASURE- MENTS	11-14 MEASURE- MENTS	7-10 MEASURE- MENTS	3-6 MEASURE- MENTS
2	.045	.055	.060	.095
3	.035	.040	.045	.060
4	.035	.040	.045	.055
5-6	.025	.035	.040	.045
7 or more	.020	.025	.030	.040

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6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

6.6 **OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER**

In addition to the obligations of the customer set forth in Section 2, preceding, the customer has certain specific obligations pertaining to the use of Switched Access Service. These obligations are as follows:

6.6.1 **ORDERING REQUIREMENTS**

When ordering Switched Access Service, the customer shall specify on the order for service, the desired interoffice transport, the number of trunks to be provisioned at the tandem and the desired directionality.

6.6.2 REPORT REQUIREMENTS

Customers are responsible for providing the following reports to the Company, when applicable.

A. Jurisdictional Reports

When a customer orders Switched Access Service for both interstate and intrastate use, the customer is responsible for providing reports as set forth in 2.3.9, preceding. Charges will be apportioned in accordance with those reports. The method to be used for determining the intrastate charges is set forth in 2.3.10, preceding.

B. Code Screening Reports

When a customer orders Service Class Routing, it must report the number of trunks and/or the appropriate codes to be instituted in each tandem switch, for each of the arrangements ordered.

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6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

6.6 OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER (Cont'd)

6.6.3 TRUNK GROUP MEASUREMENT REPORTS

With the agreement of the customer, trunk group data in the form of usage in one hundred call seconds (CCS), peg count and overflow for its end of all access trunk groups, where technologically feasible, will be made available to the Company. These data will be used to monitor trunk group utilization and service performance and will be based on previously arranged intervals and format.

6.6.4 DESIGN OF SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICES

When a customer orders Switched Access Service on a per-facility and/or per-trunk basis, it is the customer's responsibility to assure that sufficient access services have been ordered to handle its traffic.

6.7 RATE TERMS AND CONDITIONS

This section contains the specific terms and conditions governing the rates and charges that apply for Switched Access Service.

6.7.1 DESCRIPTION AND APPLICATION OF RATES AND CHARGES

There are two types of rates and charges that apply to Switched Access Service with LEC Tandem Routing. These are usage rates and nonrecurring charges. These rates and charges are applied differently to the various rate elements as set forth, following. Rates are set forth in Section 6.8 in the Addendum, Rates and Charges.

A. Usage Rates

Usage rates are rates that apply only when a specific rate element is used. These are applied on a per access minute, a per call or per query basis. Usage rates are accumulated over a monthly period.

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6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

6.7 RATE TERMS AND CONDITIONS

6.7.1 DESCRIPTION AND APPLICATION OF RATES AND CHARGES (Cont'd)

B. Nonrecurring Charges

Nonrecurring charges are one-time charges that apply for a specific work activity (i.e., installation or change to an existing service). The types of nonrecurring charges that apply for Switched Access Service are: installation of service, installation of optional features and service rearrangements. These charges are set forth in Section 6.8 in the Addendum, following.

1. Installation of Service

Nonrecurring charges apply for the installation of the individual Feature Group trunk.

- a. Switched Access Service is ordered on a trunk basis, the nonrecurring charge is applied per trunk. If a customer orders multiple trunks on the same Access Order, the first trunk is assessed the "first" installation charge and each additional trunk is assessed the "each additional" installation charge per Access Order.
- b. Nonrecurring charges for FGD Switched Access Service include one Carrier Identification Code (CIC) on an initial Access Order. The CIC is a uniform numeric code that identifies the customer associated with the Switched Access Service. The customer of the initial CIC is the customer of record for the Switched Access Service. When a customer requests two or more CICs on an initial Access Order, each additional CIC (i.e., two or more) is considered to be a service rearrangement as set forth in 3., following.

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6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

6.7 RATE TERMS AND CONDITIONS

6.7.1 **DESCRIPTION AND APPLICATION OF RATES AND CHARGES**

B. Nonrecurring Charges (Cont'd)

2. Installation of Optional Features

Nonrecurring charges may apply for the installation of some of the optional features available with Switched Access Service. The charge applies whether the feature is installed coincident with the initial installation of service or at any time subsequent to the initial installation of service.

3. Service Rearrangements

Service rearrangements are changes to existing services installed which do not result in either a change in the minimum period requirements as set forth in 5.2.3, preceding, or a change in the physical location of the POT at a customer's premises or a customer's end user's premises. Changes which result in the establishment of new minimum period obligations are treated as disconnects and starts. Changes in the physical location of the POT are treated as moves and are described and charged for as set forth in 6.7.4, following.

The charge to the customer for the service rearrangement is dependent on whether the change is administrative only in nature or involves an actual technical and/or physical change to the service.

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6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

6.7 **RATE TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

6.7.1 **DESCRIPTION AND APPLICATION OF RATES AND CHARGES**

B.3. (Cont'd)

- a. Administrative changes will be made without charge(s) to the customer. Administrative changes are as follows:
 - Change of customer name, (i.e., the customer of record does not change, but rather the customer of record changes its name, e.g., XYZ Company to XYZ Communications),
 - Change of customer name as the result of a transfer of use of service as set forth in 2.1.2, preceding,
 - Change of customer or customer's end user's premises address when the change of address is not a result of a physical relocation of equipment,
 - Change in billing data (name, address or contact name or telephone number),
 - Change of agency authorization,
 - Change of customer circuit identification,
 - Change of billing account number,
 - Change of customer test line number,
 - Change of customer or customer's end user's contact name or telephone number, and
 - Change of jurisdiction.

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PSC NO. 4 - TELEPHONE
Competitive Access Services Tariff
Effective Date: May 17, 2021
Superseding Revision

6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

6.7 RATE TERMS AND CONDITIONS

6.7.1 DESCRIPTION AND APPLICATION OF RATES AND CHARGES

B.3. (Cont'd)

- b. All other service rearrangements will be charged for as follows:
 - If the change involves the addition of or a modification to an optional feature which has a separate nonrecurring charge, that nonrecurring charge will apply.
 - If, due to an office replacement, a customer requests conversion from one-way to twoway trunks, and the request is made six months in advance of the office replacement due date, the nonrecurring charges will not apply.
 - For all other changes, including the addition of, or modifications to optional features without separate nonrecurring charges, a charge equal to one-half the Switched Transport per trunk nonrecurring (i.e., installation) charge will apply. This one-half nonrecurring charge is assessed the "first" installation charge for the first trunk and each additional trunk is assessed the "each additional" installation charge, per Access Order. If two or more optional features and changes are ordered on the same Access Order, the optional feature or change requiring the lowest level of work activity will apply. A maximum one-half nonrecurring charge will apply per Access Order for service rearrangements.
 - If a feature is not required on each trunk, but rather for an entire hunt or trunk group, only one such charge will apply (i.e., it will not apply per trunk). This one-half nonrecurring charge is assessed the "first" installation charge for the first hunt group, trunk group or end office. Each additional hunt group, trunk group or end office is assessed the "each additional" installation charge, per Access Order. Nonrecurring charges for service rearrangements are specified in Section 6.8 in the Addendum, following.

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6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

6.7 RATE TERMS AND CONDITIONS

6.7.1 **DESCRIPTION AND APPLICATION OF RATES AND CHARGES**

B.3.b. (Cont'd)

- Nonrecurring charges for additional (i.e., two or more) CICs are determined based on whether the FGD trunk(s) or trunk group(s) are new or existing, and the level of work activity (i.e., trunk, trunk group, and/or tandem).
 - When the trunk or trunk group is new, one CIC is included in the nonrecurring charges for the initial Access Order. Each additional CIC requested on the same Access Order is assessed one-half the "each additional" installation charge assessed. In addition, the charge is based on the lowest level of work, per Access Order, per LATA. The additional (i.e., two or more) CIC service rearrangement charge is in addition to Installation Charge(s) for the trunk(s).
 - When the FGD trunk group is existing service and the customer is requesting additional CICs on an existing tandem-routed trunk group, the customer is charged one-half the "first" installation charge. Each "additional" CIC after the "first additional" CIC on the same Access Order is charged one-half the "each additional" installation charge, per LATA.

C. Application of Rates

Rate categories and the application of rates are described in 6.1.2. Rates and charges are set forth in Section 6.8, following.

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6.7 RATE TERMS AND CONDITIONS (Cont'd)

6.7.2 MINIMUM PERIODS

Minimum periods for Switched Access Service are described in 5.2.3, preceding.

6.7.3 MINIMUM MONTHLY CHARGE

Switched Access Service is subject to a minimum monthly charge. The minimum charge applies for the total capacity provided. The minimum monthly charge for usage rated elements is the sum of the charges set forth in Section 6.8 in the Addendum, following, for the measured or assumed usage for the month.

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6.7 RATE TERMS AND CONDITIONS (Cont'd)

6.7.4 Moves

New minimum period requirements will be established for moved or reconfigured services. Any changes to the existing Switched Access facilities, trunks and optional features as they exist at the current location, excluding a change in Circuit Facility Assignment (CFA), made in conjunction with a move or reconfiguration, will be treated as a discontinuance and a start of new service and all associated nonrecurring installation charges will apply. The addition of lines and trunks made in conjunction with a move or reconfiguration will be treated as a start of new service and all associated nonrecurring installation charges and new minimum period requirements will apply. The customer will also remain responsible for satisfying all outstanding minimum period charges for any disconnected service as the result of a move or reconfiguration.

6.7.5 MEASURING ACCESS MINUTES

Customer traffic to or from Company end office switches will be measured (i.e., recorded) by the Company at end office switches. The measured minutes are the chargeable access minutes.

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6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

6.7 RATE TERMS AND CONDITIONS (Cont'd)

6.7.6 FEATURE GROUP D USAGE MEASUREMENT

FGD access minutes or fractions thereof, the exact value of the fraction being a function of the switch technology where the measurement is made, are accumulated over the billing period for each tandem, and are then rounded up to the nearest access minute for each tandem.

The following assumed minutes are used in the computation of Switched Access Service charges.

A. Originating Usage Measurement

Out of Band SS7 Signaling

- For originating calls over FGD, usage measurement begins when the FGD entry switch receives an Exit Message (EXM).
- The measurement of originating call usage over FGD with SS7 out of band signaling ends when a Release Message is sent or received by the originating end user's end office, whichever occurs first.

B. Terminating Usage Measurement

- For terminating calls over FGD, the measurement of access minutes begins when the terminating FGD entry switch receives answer supervision from the Company end office, indicating the terminating end user has answered.
- The measurement of terminating call usage over FGD ends when the terminating FGD entry switch receives disconnect supervision from the Company end office, indicating the terminating end user has disconnected, or the customer's POT, whichever is recognized first by the entry switch.

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6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

6.7 RATE TERMS AND CONDITIONS (Cont'd)

6.7.7 MILEAGE MEASUREMENT

The mileage to be used to determine the Switched Transport rate for traffic is calculated on the airline distance between the end office switch, where the call originates or terminates and the access tandem. The V&H coordinates method is used to determine mileage. This method is set forth in the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. Tariff F.C.C. No. 4 for Wire Center Information (V & H coordinates).

Mileage rates are shown in Section 6.8 in the Addendum, following. If the V & H calculation results in a fraction of a mile, always round up to the next whole mile for rate application.

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