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**SECTION 3. DEFINITIONS**

**End Office:** With respect to each NPA-NXX code prefix assigned to the Company, the location of the Company's "End Office" for purposes of this Tariff shall be the point of interconnection associated with that NPA-NXX code in the Local Exchange Routing Guide (LERG), issued by Telcordia. The End Office switch is the Company's switching system where telephone exchange service Customer station Channels are terminated for purposes of interconnection to each other and to interoffice Trunks.

**End Office Access Service:** means: (1) The switching of access traffic at the carrier's End Office switch and the delivery to or from of such traffic to the called party's premises; (2) The routing of interexchange telecommunications traffic to or from the called party's premises, either directly or via contractual or other arrangements with an affiliated or unaffiliated entity, regardless of the specific functions provided or facilities used; or (3) Any functional equivalent of the incumbent local exchange carrier access service provided by a non-incumbent local exchange carrier. End Office Access Service rate elements for an incumbent local exchange carrier include the local switching rate elements specified in 47 CFR §69.106, the carrier common line rate elements specified in 47 CFR §69.154, and the intrastate rate elements for functionally equivalent access services. End Office Access Service rate elements for an incumbent local exchange carrier also include any rate elements assessed on local switching access minutes, including the information surcharge and residual rate elements. End office Access Service rate elements for a non-incumbent local exchange carrier include any functionally equivalent access service.

**End User:** The term "End User" denotes any customer of an intrastate telecommunications service that is not a carrier, except that a carrier shall be deemed to be an "end user" to the extent that such carrier uses a telecommunications service for administrative purposes, without making such service available to others, directly or indirectly.

**Entrance Facility:** The dedicated Switched Access transport facility from the Customer premise to the Company serving wire center.

**Exchange Carrier:** Any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, governmental entity or corporation engaged in the provision of local exchange telephone service.

**F.C.C.:** **Federal Communications Commission**

**Facilities:** Denotes any cables, poles, conduit, carrier equipment, wire center distribution frames, central office switching equipment, etc. used to provide the service offered under this tariff.

**Fiber Optic Cable:** 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.

**Firm Order Confirmation (FOC):** Acknowledgment by the Company of receipt of an Access Service Request from the Customer and commitment by the Company of a Service Date.

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