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SECTION 2. <u>RULES AND REGULATIONS</u> (Cont'd)

2.12 Deposits

2.12.1 Deposit Requirements

Carrier may require from any Customer or prospective Customer a deposit to be held as a guarantee for the payment of charges in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Commission. Any applicant who is either not a previous Customer having established prompt payment record or whose credit record is not satisfactory may be required to pay a deposit. In its calculation of a Customers' creditworthiness, Carrier will use trading banking references, credit reports, and any other information pertinent to a Customers' credit. Any deposit required shall be confirmed in writing to the Customer no later than the time of the next billing.

2.12.2 Amount of Deposit

The amount of the deposit shall be in accordance with Commission regulations and shall not be more than two (2) months of usage of Carrier's services for any specific Customer. The amount of such usage may be estimated from past usage, the Customer's estimated anticipated usage, or Carrier's state average usage considering type and nature of service. The amount of deposit may exceed this total when services are provided for shorter periods of time or special occasions, and will not exceed an amount equal to two months charges. Interest on deposits held for thirty days or more will be paid at a rate of 7% per annum or as permitted under Commission rules.

Richard E. Ottalagana, Executive Vice President, Fairport, New York